

1869-1969

OCTOBER 1969 — No. 103

international review of the red cross



PROPERTY OF U. S. ARMY
THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL'S SCHOOL
LIBRARY

INTER ARMA CARITAS

GENEVA
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS
FOUNDED IN 1863

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

- MARCEL NAVILLE, Master of Arts, *President* (member since 1967)
- JACQUES CHENEVIÈRE, Hon. Doctor of Literature, *Honorary Vice-President* (1919)
- MARTIN BODMER, Hon. Doctor of Philosophy (1940)
- PAUL RUEGGER, former Swiss Minister to Italy and the United Kingdom, Member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration, The Hague (1948)
- RODOLFO OLGATI, Hon. Doctor of Medicine, former Director of the Don Suisse (1949)
- MARGUERITE GAUTIER-VAN BERCHEM, former Head of Section, Central Prisoners of War Agency (1951)
- FRÉDÉRIC SIORDET, Lawyer, Counsellor to the International Committee of the Red Cross from 1943 to 1951 (1951)
- GUILLAUME BORDIER, Certificated Engineer E.P.F., M.B.A. Harvard, Banker (1955)
- HANS BACHMANN, Doctor of Laws, Assistant Secretary-General to the International Committee of the Red Cross from 1944 to 1946, *Vice-President* (1958)
- JACQUES FREYMOND, Doctor of Literature, Director of the Graduate Institute of International Studies, Professor at the University of Geneva, *Vice-President* (1959)
- DIETRICH SCHINDLER, Doctor of Laws, Professor at the University of Zurich (1961)
- SAMUEL A. GONARD, former Army Corps Commander (1961)
- HANS MEULI, Doctor of Medicine, Brigade Colonel, former Director of the Swiss Army Medical Service (1961)
- MARJORIE DUVILLARD, Deputy executive director of the International Council of Nurses (1961)
- MAX PETITPIERRE, Doctor of Laws, former President of the Swiss Confederation (1961)
- ADOLPHE GRAEDEL, former member of the Swiss National Council; Secretary-General of the International Metal Workers Federation (1965)
- DENISE BINDSCHIEDLER-ROBERT, Doctor of Laws, Professor at the Graduate Institute of International Studies (1967)
- JACQUES F. DE ROUGEMONT, Doctor of Medicine (1967)
- ROGER GALLOPIN, Doctor of Laws (1967)
- JEAN PICTET, Doctor of Laws (1967)
- WALDEMAR JUCKER, Doctor of Laws, Secretary, Union syndicale suisse (1967)

Honorary members: Miss LUCIE ODIER, *Honorary Vice-President*; Messrs. FRÉDÉRIC BARBEY, CARL J. BURCKHARDT, PAUL CARRY, Miss SUZANNE FERRIERE, Messrs. ÉDOUARD de HALLER, PAUL LOGOZ, ALFREDO VANNOTTI, ADOLF VISCHER.

Directorate :

ROGER GALLOPIN, Director-General
JEAN PICTET, Director-General
CLAUDE PILLOUD, Director

INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF THE RED CROSS

OCTOBER 1969 - N° 103

1869-1969

CONTENTS

M. A. NAVILLE

The Centenary of our Publication 519

J.-G. LOSSIER

How the "Bulletin international" Started 521

V. SEGESVARY

A Glimpse into the Past

Fifty years of the "Bulletin" 539

Fifty years of the "International Review" . . . 546

P. E. SCHAZMANN

Wide open to humanitarian Problems 553

The Flame of Charity 571

**INTERNATIONAL
COMMITTEE OF
THE RED CROSS**

External Activities: Nigeria - Saudi Arabia - Middle
East - People's Republic of South Yemen - Syria -
Switzerland 583

In Geneva: A German Publication 587

**IN THE RED CROSS
WORLD**

International Red Cross Meetings in Istanbul. . . . 589

**FRENCH EDITION
OF THE REVIEW**

The French edition of this Review is issued every month under the title of *Revue internationale de la Croix-Rouge*. It is, in principle, identical with the English edition and may be obtained under the same conditions.

**SUPPLEMENTS
TO THE REVIEW**

SPANISH

M. A. Naville: 1869-1969 — El Centenario de nuestra publicación — Cómo nació el "Bulletin international" — P.-E. Schazmann: La Llama de la caridad.

GERMAN

M. A. Naville: 1869-1969 — Unsere Zeitschrift hundert-jährig — Wie entstand das "Bulletin international?" — P.-E. Schazmann: Die Flamme der Nächstenliebe.

**INTERNATIONAL
REVIEW OF
THE RED CROSS**

*The International Review is published each month by
the International Committee of the Red Cross*

7, avenue de la Paix, 1211 Geneva I, Switzerland
Postal Cheque No. 121767

Annual subscription: Sw. fr. 25.— (\$6)
Single copies Sw. fr. 2.50 (\$0.60)

Editor: J.-G. LOSSIER

The International Committee of the Red Cross assumes
responsibility only for material over its own signature.

1869-1969

THE CENTENARY OF OUR PUBLICATION

With the first number of the Bulletin international des Sociétés de secours aux militaires blessés edited in Geneva in October 1869 by the International Committee of Aid to the Wounded, not yet known as the International Committee of the Red Cross, there originated a publication which in 1919 was to become the Revue internationale de la Croix-Rouge, now widespread throughout the world and in which the activities, researches and intentions of our movement are described. We are therefore celebrating both the fiftieth anniversary of the Review's founding and also the centenary of the Bulletin to which it has succeeded without any interruption.

With a past rich in experience and with contents which many publications could envy, the Review constitutes a testimony of a unique sort of the history of the past hundred years. To the attentive reader it relates the vicissitudes, development and the pursuance of one of the most arresting of human adventures: that of the Red Cross. In these pages in which legal expositions, medical data and descriptions of activity can be found close to each other, an extraordinary history is unfolded. It is, in fact, an epic of all those self-effacing and effective men who struggle so that life may be less hard for those suffering misfortune, those in reduced circumstances and the homeless. It is also an appraisal of jurists who make efforts, through international conventions, to contain the ferocity of combatants, a tribute to doctors and nurses who give all their energy and solicitude

THE CENTENARY OF OUR PUBLICATION

and to delegates who, often at the risk of their own lives, place themselves in the forefront during natural disasters and in war.

On reading through these pages, one can estimate the amount of human suffering and discover much devotion which is often of the obscurest kind. One is held by unforgettable pictures: the face of a child lying prostrate, a long grey column of sad prisoners, above all the unbearable world of famine and barbed wire, the luminous Red Cross flag.

In spite of its apparent dryness, nothing can be so moving to read.

A publication of this sort cannot be replaced. It is the meeting place where those principles are affirmed, animating all those working under the emblem of the red cross, the red crescent and the red lion and sun.

It is a record of relief actions carried out by a few for the benefit of so many, without any other motive than that of service.

Through so much suffering it is an act of faith in a more friendly world.

To read this publication is to become aware and to make it widely known is all to the good.

Marcel A. NAVILLE

President of the International Committee
of the Red Cross

How the “Bulletin international” Started

Origin

In a report which he had submitted to one of the preparatory committees for the first International Conference of National Aid Societies for the Nursing of the Sick and Wounded in the Field (which meetings were the predecessors of the International Conferences of the Red Cross) at Paris in 1867, Huber-Saladin, one of the French government delegates, put forward the idea “of a jointly financed publication in Geneva, in the form of a journal, or a periodical bulletin to which every Central Committee would contribute news items”. The International Committee, of which Gustave Moynier was president, adopted this idea and shortly afterwards, in its ninth circular of 21 September 1867, submitted it to the Central Committees which had been previously consulted and had given their approval.

In its circular, the Committee put forward definite proposals on, inter alia, the monthly publication of this “Journal international”, an annual budget and the kind of articles which would appear in it, such as:

- a) communications which the International Committee or the National Committees wished to bring to the knowledge of all members of the movement;
- b) information on the activities of the various committees both in time of peace and of war;
- c) bibliographical information;

HOW THE "BULLETIN INTERNATIONAL" STARTED

- d) memoirs, speeches, letters, etc. on matters affecting the movement's functions and progress;
- e) all sorts of communications concerning the subject of our work.

The International Committee had these proposals printed on 20 June 1868 in the form of a memorandum to participants in the second International Conference which was held at Berlin in April 1869. That meeting straightway approved of the principle that a bulletin should be issued. It discussed the project in outline, but not the practical details, and summarized its conclusions as follows:

The Conference considers essential the publication of a journal through which Central Committees of various countries may maintain contact and learn of official events and other facts which they should know.

Editing of this journal is entrusted to the International Committee of the Red Cross without, however, any expense therefor being incurred by the members of that Committee.

The frequency of publication of this journal will be decided by the members of the Committee.

Part of the journal may be reserved for announcements, reports on special work and descriptions of appliances or inventions useful in the alleviation of the plight of military wounded or sick."

On the strength of this imperative resolution by the Berlin Conference, the International Committee, on 15 June of the same year, in its 16th circular to Central Committees, submitted a programme for the international periodical. Before specifying any technical details on subscriptions, printing and publication (in the meantime the Committee had decided not to publish monthly, but quarterly) it put forward principles which with little change prevailed until 1919.

The International Committee, in which Central Committees have placed their trust, is pleased to be able in this manner to perform a useful service in the promotion of an institution to which it has devoted itself entirely. It also welcomes its new terms of reference

according to which it will undertake to strengthen the more frequent and regular ties of kinship with the Central Committees.

It is the latter which, as required by the Berlin Conference, are to supply material for the Bulletin. It is understood that this collection of writings will be the organ of Central Committees for the distribution of news of interest to them and in which they alone will be entitled to publish articles, thereby enhancing the Bulletin and conferring on it a somewhat official character. The International Committee will assemble, co-ordinate and publish contributions, adding any special news where required.

This combined effort implies that each Central Committee will take steps to be able to work for the Bulletin by supplying full details concerning its own country. The requirements for a substantial publication will certainly not be lacking providing those concerned take sufficient interest. The International Committee therefore hopes that Central Committees, convinced of this, will help it in every way they can by advice and co-operation so that their collective Bulletin may be worthy of the great movement it is designed to serve.

The Bulletin's scope will include not only the work, personnel and organization of Central Committees and Relief Societies, but also facts concerning the official medical services or charitable organizations working for the same aims, new publications (books, brochures, newspaper articles), inventions designed to improve the condition of the wounded, and so forth.

Central Committees will also be able to use the Bulletin to convey their ideas, to raise questions and seek solutions to problems of concern to them.

Communications from each Committee will be published under its own responsibility. They may be split into as many distinct articles as there are subjects for discussion.

The First Bulletin

The first issue of the *Bulletin international des Sociétés de secours aux militaires blessés* was published in Geneva in October 1869. It contained 60 pages with a wealth of material which demonstrated that the National Aid Societies were active in various countries, that they were ambitious and that the International

HOW THE "BULLETIN INTERNATIONAL" STARTED

Committee for Aid to Wounded Soldiers—which a few years later was to become the International Committee of the Red Cross—was already anxious to make known the Geneva Convention signed in 1864 and to investigate all applications thereof.

According to this first issue, for example, promotion of the principles of the Geneva Convention consisted not only of the spread of knowledge on them in the armed forces and the public; it was intended also to reach experts in international law whose opinions, in the absence of positive laws, gave force to the practice which civilized nations considered themselves bound to respect. It was this which induced the International Committee "to submit this subject to one of the justifiably renowned learned bodies: l'Institut de France."

In addition, Gustave Moynier had just published a 400 page book. A review in the Bulletin described his *Etudes sur la Convention de Genève* as one of the books which "disseminates the knowledge necessary to ensure the full observance and effectiveness of the Convention". Such dissemination was already receiving attention from the Geneva Committee. It was because he considered the Convention to be very inadequately known that Moynier spoke on it with feeling at the Berlin Conference.

This first issue of the Bulletin began with a foreword of tribute to Relief Societies whose increasing activities had extended the movement widely in Europe, Asia and in America. The text, all the way through to its conclusion on the Red Cross and Peace, is still of such topical interest that we believe it worthwhile reproducing it here, even if only to recall in what spirit the founding committee conceived of Red Cross action nationally and internationally.

The Red Cross on the frontispiece is too familiar an emblem to members of the Societies publishing this Bulletin for it to be necessary to remind them of its significance. But this new compendium of texts is not for them alone. At the same time as it seeks to improve the work to which it is dedicated, it must also be an instrument of promotion in its favour. Hence, it would be wise to consider the possibility that the people we wish to win over to our cause have scant acquaintance with it, and, in this brief preamble, to bring them up to date on what it is about.

N° 1

BULLETIN INTERNATIONAL

DES

SOCIÉTÉS DE SECOURS AUX MILITAIRES BLESSÉS

PUBLIÉ PAR

LE COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL



GENÈVE

IMPRIMERIE SOULLIER ET WIRTH, CITÉ, 19-21

OCTOBRE 1869

HOW THE "BULLETIN INTERNATIONAL" STARTED

We must first justify in their eyes the existence of our Aid Societies to the Wounded, for they might with every reason be surprised that voluntary associations make bold to discharge a mission which is incumbent essentially on governments and, in fact, already undertaken by them, since in all civilized armies there is a regular medical service. The reason for our Relief Societies is nothing less than the inadequacy of those official services, incontrovertibly demonstrated today and no longer concealed by the governments themselves. There is, however, no question of disbanding what is already in existence, but of supplementing it, and the aim assigned to the zeal of Relief Societies is only to help the military administration in every conceivable way.

The bases for the organization of these Relief Societies were laid in Geneva in 1863 at a conference composed for the most part of men of expert knowledge and of influence from various countries of Europe.

The factor which distinguishes these Societies from those which previously occasionally came to the assistance of war victims is their permanent character, even in time of peace. The underlying truth is that relief improvised in time of need is always inadequate and that in this sphere charity cannot rise to the occasion unless prepared well beforehand.

The present-day Relief Societies differ from their predecessors also by their international character, that is to say, by their pronounced intention of aiding one another and distributing their benefits among all the unfortunate within their reach without discriminating between friend and foe.

The red cross on a white background is the flag whose protection they seek, and it is at the same time the sign by which all army medical services are identified.

We cannot discuss here the activities of the Relief Societies in full detail as we would wish; we must refer readers desiring to go into the subject more thoroughly to the special writings on this matter. This brief review would, however, not be complete if we did not adumbrate the usefulness of a movement which, born only yesterday as it were, has already rendered such signal service.

Relief Societies existing in nearly all countries of Europe and whose network extends to Asia and America have proved themselves

HOW THE "BULLETIN INTERNATIONAL" STARTED

conclusively on the field of battle and in hospitals during the war of 1866. Moreover, for the official medical services, they were a stimulus; by calling public attention to shortcomings, they have set the medical services on the road to reforms and in several countries great progress has been achieved under the influence of this noble emulation. It is also due to the initiative of the Relief Societies that we owe the Geneva Convention which has legally transferred to the law of nations the beneficent doctrine of protection for the wounded and those who tend them.

The Relief Societies made good use of their first years of existence. Nevertheless, we have observed a reproach which has often been levelled at them. Their first concern, it is said, should not be to relieve the suffering of the wounded but to root out the evil and ensure lasting peace for the nations. It is not sufficient today for philanthropists to attenuate the evils of war; they should seek a higher ideal. Those who give voice to this objection forget, no doubt, that there are associations whose purpose is precisely to make war on war and, therefore, that the most noble hopes of the modern spirit are not ignored. They should bear in mind that pending the triumph of these friends of peace, wisdom demands that we be ready for any eventuality.

This, Relief Societies have understood; but when carrying out the task which has been assigned to them, they neglect no opportunity to proclaim that what they desire most is peace and the absence of need of their services. Moreover, they are convinced that they are useful auxiliaries to peaceful propaganda and that they make a genuine contribution, albeit indirect, to the instilment of a distaste for war in the minds of men. The necessity which forces them to depict the horrors in order to justify their action—the universal sympathy which they seek in the name of charity for the benefit of the unfortunate victims who suffer—the display of their equipment which seems to portend so much suffering: all that impresses and gives rise to salutary reflexion which cannot but bear fruit.

The Red Cross, which does so much good, must therefore be dear to the friends of humanity.

* * *

HOW THE "BULLETIN INTERNATIONAL" STARTED

In this first issue, interesting details were given on the organization and early action of the National Aid Societies for the Wounded in Austria, Baden, Belgium, France, North Germany, Great Britain, Hesse, Italy, the Netherlands, Russia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey and the United States of America.

It is therefore immediately apparent that the *Bulletin international* was a faithful and well informed witness of the movement, since Societies in fourteen countries were mentioned, all of which, with the exception of the Turkish Society which was definitively founded only in April 1869, were the subject of a detailed account. Furthermore, this first issue came off the press after many letters and circulars to Central Committees, whose subscriptions were to cover the financing.¹

At the end of last century

The Vth International Conference of Red Cross Societies took place in Rome in April 1892. Important questions were discussed and participants, welcomed with extreme generosity, realized what it was which united them and they were certain that the work which they had undertaken was making constant progress. Gustave Moynier, who had been elected Honorary Chairman of that large meeting, was unable to attend, as his state of health prevented him from going to Rome.

He must have been far from well to contemplate, as shown in the document quoted hereunder, the possibility of having to hand over to someone else the heavy responsibility which he had assumed almost unaided. This no doubt explains why he wrote his "Notes administratives" in May of that year.

His notes give modest and pleasant details on the editing and administration of the *Bulletin international*, nearly a quarter of a century after its foundation and at a time when it had assumed a predominant place among Red Cross reviews. We think our readers will be interested in this document which shows that the publication was still at the "craftsman" phase and that the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross was involved

¹ See P. Boissier, *De Solférino à Tsoushima, Histoire du CICR*, Paris, 1963.

HOW THE "BULLETIN INTERNATIONAL" STARTED

in the minute details of the Bulletin, each quarterly issue of which contained nearly sixty pages.

V. Bulletin

The decision to publish the Bulletin was reached at the 1869 Berlin Conference. It was confirmed by the Karlsruhe Conference in 1887, and has been the subject of several articles in the Bulletin itself.

The number of the Bulletin pages varies depending on the volume of material to be published. Over the first twenty-two years, the average number of pages for each issue was 56 and the president is endeavouring to maintain this number.

Research for material requires continuous attention, either to make use of documents received or to provoke communications and other despatches from Central Committees, friends of the Red Cross, bookshops, etc.

The President keeps a careful note on loose-leaf paper of all prospective articles for each Bulletin. He keeps progressive notes of the action taken in respect of each one of them and of the persons to whom he gives the documents to be used, in order to keep a control on their subsequent return.

Mr. Albert Gampert generally prepares the articles drawn from French and German sources. For other languages and for technical articles, the President turns to other contributors, particularly to the Central Committees of the countries in which the articles originate (Greece, Serbia, Holland, etc.), to members of the International Committee or, in case of need, to salaried staff. The President himself often writes articles when the subject is particularly delicate or requires accurate knowledge on Red Cross history.

In addition, no article is sent to the printer without having been read by the President and, if need be, corrected, completed or abbreviated by him.

Mr. Gampert has to deliver the copy to the Imprimerie Soullier no later than the first of the month in which the Bulletin will appear (January, April, July or October). We

must see to it that the Bulletin is ready before the end of the month, and in fact this deadline has rarely been exceeded.

Proofs are corrected twice, by the President and by Mr. Gampert.

It is recommended:

1. to include in each issue any changes in Central Committee addresses or International Committee membership on the cover;
2. to attach to the January issue the title of the volume;
3. to finish the October issue with a table of the contents for the full year.

A table of contents covering a decade was published in the 40th issue of the Bulletin and twenty years in the 80th.

After the publication of each issue, the President sends a summary to the *Journal de Genève* for publication under the heading: "Quarterly Red Cross Chronicle".

Once the issue has been printed, Mr. Soullier sends Mr. Labarthe the necessary number of copies for the subscribers service, which sees to the despatch.

The subscribers list is kept in duplicate, one copy by Mr. Labarthe and the other by the President.

To the inside of the cover page of the President's copy is stuck a sheet on which changes are noted as they occur and payments made. A copy of this is given Mr. Labarthe every quarter, before distribution of an issue. The same changes and payments are marked also in the register opposite the name of the subscriber concerned.

Some subscribers pay direct to the President, in which case he immediately sends them a receipt. Mr. Labarthe deals with collection from subscribers who are two years behind with their payments.

The Bulletin has always paid for itself and it has never been necessary to have recourse to a financial guarantee from Central Committees.

In the small office (central section of the shelves) there are some full collections of the Bulletin which must be continued with care. In the right hand section there are odd issues of the whole series except those which are out-of-print and on the floor beneath the window there is the unsorted remainder.

HOW THE "BULLETIN INTERNATIONAL" STARTED

Subscription for all countries is Fr. 6.—.

The price of a separate number is Fr. 1,50.

Mr. Gampert's fee is Fr. 150.— per issue.

The members of the International Committee of the Red Cross having always given their President considerable latitude to settle as he thinks fit the administrative details concerning their common interests, he alone knows most of the habits he has developed in this respect and of which the suitability has been demonstrated by long experience. Now this is an unfortunate state of affairs, in that if from one day to the next the management of the Committee's affairs should have to be passed to other hands, the continuity of his traditions would be broken and the Committee would lose the benefit of a well-tried organization.

Such is the consideration which has induced the undersigned to set out in detail, in the following pages, the manner in which he is accustomed to proceed, in order to leave for a successor a sort of *vade-mecum*, which will spare him much hesitation and groping.

G. Moynier

For a further six years, Moynier continued in this manner to edit each issue of the Bulletin. However, in 1898, his strength failing, he announced his intention to retire from the presidency of the International Committee—he nevertheless remained in office until his death in 1910—and at the same time give up this administrative function which was entrusted to Paul Des Gouttes, a young legal expert who later became an outstanding personality in the Red Cross movement.

From the "Bulletin" to the "Revue"

Coming back to the foundation of the *Bulletin international*, we would mention that it had been one of the ICRC's first concerns not to affect adversely the journals then being published by a number of Central Committees. At the time, *La Charité sur les champs de bataille* was being published in Belgium, a review had been published in France since 1865, and the *Kriegerheil* was the

organ of the Prussian Central Committee. The first two of these went out of circulation in 1877 but similar publications had appeared in Spain, Russia and Sweden.

Seven years later, six National Societies were producing periodicals: two in German (Berlin and Zurich), and others in Russian, Swedish, Spanish and English (Boston). The editors of the *Bulletin international* could therefore conclude that they were doing no harm to the movement's other publications. "A close study of the matter", they observed, "shows clearly that any apprehension which may be entertained in this respect is groundless."

In its 41st circular in 1877, the International Committee stated "We have never regretted our deference to the wish of the Berlin Conference, for we have therein found a means of usefully serving the work we founded... Through the Bulletin, we are in effect consolidating the permanent moral unity of all Central Committees, keeping them informed on matters of common interest, and we are furthering their progress by emulation, by initiating them into their work." "But", the ICRC added, "although it is not in the nature of a popular publication, the Bulletin can aspire to a far greater readership than it has today."

In the January issue of 1880 is an article on the start of the Bulletin's second decade. "It is a pity it was not started earlier... If the Red Cross, from the beginning had had an official historiographer, what important events could have been recorded! But the need was felt only later, when the Red Cross had proved itself and when the great future before it was realized."

The International Committee continued nevertheless to ask itself, not about the review's existence or necessity, since the 1884 International Conference in Geneva had approved the Committee's conclusions and restated that the Bulletin "is a useful organ of Aid Societies for the Wounded", but about the changes which could be introduced.

This subject was raised in two circulars to the Central Red Cross Committees; one dated 16 February 1885, the other 18 October 1894. In the first, however, there is the perceptible doubt of an institution still hesitant about its very constitution and the practical methods to be used in the future. "If you are in favour of the continuation of this periodical", wrote Gustave Moynier, the President,

HOW THE "BULLETIN INTERNATIONAL" STARTED

and Gustave Ador, the Secretary, "we should be pleased to know what improvements you would like to see introduced." The tone of the second circular, on the other hand, was different. One hundred issues were a *raison d'être* and justified continued effort along the lines laid down:

We therefore consider the experience of the last twenty-five years encouraging and that the future of the Bulletin international des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge is assured for a long time ahead, if our honorable correspondents are kind enough to continue the friendly support which they have given us so far. They have not forgotten, and we are grateful for it, that the Bulletin is not published by the International Committee in its own interest, but in that of all National Red Cross Societies. It is available to them as a convenient means of exchanging useful news among themselves, and it is at the same time the means essential in time of peace to keep alive the spirit of fraternity and solidarity which is the inspiration underlying their joint work. We ourselves feel keenly the need for the Bulletin from this twofold point of view, and we look upon it as a valuable instrument which enables us to contribute constantly to the development of the institution for which we took the initiative more than thirty years ago

It will be noticed that in this circular the title used is not *Bulletin international des Sociétés de secours aux militaires blessés*: it became the *Bulletin international des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge* in 1886. Under this name, unchanged until 1919, the International Committee's quarterly continued with little alteration in the cover, layout and content.

* * *

Then, in January 1919, a new *Revue* appeared which absorbed the *Bulletin*. It was a monthly, and from that time on was known as the *Revue internationale de la Croix-Rouge*. Here, incidentally, is how the change was announced by the Steering Committee, presided over by the *Bulletin* editor, Paul Des Gouttes:

In the course of these four years of war, the Red Cross Societies of belligerent countries and of several neutrals have seen their scope

REVUE INTERNATIONALE DE LA CROIX-ROUGE



BULLETIN INTERNATIONAL DES SOCIÉTÉS DE LA CROIX-ROUGE

SOMMAIRE :

	Pages.
Revue internationale de la Croix-Rouge et Bulletin international des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge	1
PAUL DES GOUTTES, <i>D^r en droit, membre et secrétaire général du Comité International</i>	
De l'applicabilité des Conventions de La Haye de 1889 et de 1907, ainsi que celles de Genève de 1864 et 1906	3
D ^r FRÉDÉRIC FERRIÈRE, <i>Vice-président du Comité International.</i>	
Mission à Athènes, Salonique et Sofia	11
Comte PAUL TELEKY, <i>Président du bureau de prévoyance de l'Etat Hongrois pour les victimes de la guerre.</i>	
L'assistance aux victimes de la guerre en Hongrie	23
CHRONIQUE	37
BIBLIOGRAPHIE	59
BULLETIN INTERNATIONAL DES SOCIÉTÉS DE LA CROIX-ROUGE (voir la 4 ^{me} page de la couverture).	67

GENÈVE
COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE

HOW THE "BULLETIN INTERNATIONAL" STARTED

widened on an unexpected scale and they have been able to meet new obligations thanks to the assistance of all sorts which they have engendered. The work they have had to perform is by no means on the decline. At the most it will change. Instead of merely dressing wounds, the Red Cross seeks to remedy the evils of war; it will devote all its strength to solving the great problems, so far barely touched upon, of rehabilitation of the disabled, of war on tuberculosis and, in a broader sense, it will henceforth constantly strive to alleviate human distress.

The International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva has followed with sympathy and attention the efforts of charity in all countries. In its own sphere of action, more moral than material, it has by appeals, protests and contact through its delegates, continually reminded governments that they must observe the all too often violated Conventions. At the same time, through its International Prisoners of War Agency and the millions of requests of all sorts it has received and tried to satisfy, it is in close contact with all forms of anguish and distress.

But this direct action, imposed by the necessities of war, is only temporary: its role is especially to ensure liaison among the various Red Cross Societies and co-ordinate their efforts. In order the better to discharge its obligations, it has decided to give wider publicity to reports of charitable activities.

The quarterly Bulletin international which has been publishing reports from Central Red Cross Committees for the last forty years, is now to become a monthly, and in addition to the official section with news from every Red Cross there will be articles on all assistance questions of general interest, in which everyone may freely give their points of view, denounce injustice, call for help. It will give space to any national study likely to interest other nations, but it will of course reserve space in the first place for works of comparison, summaries and discussions on principles.

By broadening its Bulletin and founding a Revue internationale de la Croix-Rouge, the International Committee purports to strengthen one of the few links which war has not broken and at the same time, on its own ground, to prepare for forthcoming International Conferences of the Red Cross which, in a future which we hope is not too distant, will again bring together representatives of all countries.

HOW THE "BULLETIN INTERNATIONAL" STARTED

From that time on, apart from the leading articles, the *Revue* reported on the activities of the ICRC and the National Societies. Within a cover weighed down by many details at the start, but progressively simplified, the *Revue internationale* was published in French only; this considerably restricted its circulation.

After the Second World War, the question of publication in other languages arose and in 1948 an English supplement was issued, with some of the main items of each month's *Revue*. Then, in 1949, there appeared the Spanish supplement, followed in 1950 by the German. In 1961, the *Revue* was published also in English, under the title of *International Review of the Red Cross*.

These four versions are today read in all countries and its circulation constantly increases. It has never tried to be a popular publication, but to remain what its founders wanted it to be: the faithful and objective witness of the Red Cross mission in Geneva and the world, the organ of Red Cross principles through which its doctrine is developed, a reflection of the constructive effort which continues in all latitudes, in all civilizations, for the defence of man and his dignity.

* * *

It is certain that we no longer employ the same terms as the founders of the Red Cross. The world today, in terms of humanitarian action, is different from theirs. However, in this Centenary year of our publication the editor can continue to take his inspiration, as his predecessors did (to Paul Des Gouttes' name should be added the names of Etienne Clouzot, Jean Charles de Watteville, Henri Reverdin and Louis Demolis) from the design announced in an editorial of the *Bulletin international* of January 1880:

"We will remain at our post and continue to record things which have been accomplished, with the conviction of thus fulfilling a useful if modest role and making our own contribution for the work undertaken to move gradually nearer to its ideal".

A GLIMPSE INTO THE PAST

Fifty years of the “ Bulletin ”

Glancing through the 196 numbers of the *Bulletin international des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge*¹ certain major themes stand out significantly. Some of these were already described in its first issue of October 1869, then can be met with again throughout the years until this last number of October 1918 devoted almost entirely to wartime activities in 28 belligerent or neutral countries and to interventions on behalf of victims. The account which follows, however incomplete it may be, will at all events describe the successes, hopes and preoccupations of a decisive period in the history of our movement.

The Geneva Convention

One can first of all see the efforts made by the ICRC to spread knowledge of the rules of international humanitarian law and to increase the number of countries signatories to the first Geneva Convention. Furthermore, the Bulletin draws attention on several occasions to bringing the Convention up to date, the necessity of making known the great step forward involved in men's minds at the beginning of the century in the signing by different States of international law texts, by which they renounce part of their sovereignty in time of war.

¹ As has been mentioned before, it appeared every quarter and was originally called the *Bulletin international des Sociétés de Secours aux militaires blessés*.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE "BULLETIN"

In 1914 it gave several pages to the fiftieth anniversary of that Geneva Convention and published the names of participants in the 1864 Conference and a list of signatory States. This was also done for the Convention of 6 July 1906 and the subsequent ratifications and accessions.

The National Societies

Gradually committees were formed, conceived according to Henry Dunant's ideas. The development of relief societies, the successive origins of many of them and the dissolution of others and the increasingly closer relations they maintained with the ICRC were all given their due place. In October 1876 came the simultaneous announcement of the founding of a Society in Rumania, the dissolution of the United States' Relief Society and the creation of a new Society in Constantinople, the previous one having disappeared. Local branches were started everywhere which proved the popular appeal of the Red Cross and that it was extending its field of action, very limited at the outset, to every form of human suffering.

No more faithful a catalogue either can be found of the recognition of new National Societies by the ICRC, as official circulars are produced, sometimes accompanied by the comments of the Bulletin's editor.

Aid to the wounded

Much prominence is given to new techniques in practical relief work. These included, for example, the improvement in methods of transporting the wounded, the invention of new stretchers, the creation of new types of ambulance, the specialization of stretcher-bearers' tasks and the training in various countries of a corps of first-aiders. Most of these "finds" certainly appear anachronistic to us today, but they were none the less examined, discussed and even adopted by the armed forces.

In April 1900 attention was given to a new German stretcher with one wheel. "The single wheel has been criticised for giving a wounded man the feeling of a lack of stability; the author considers that criticism should rather be levelled against the defective articula-

tion of certain types of wheeled stretchers than the system itself, which he has moreover greatly improved".

In January 1912 a stretcher on bicycles was presented. It was invented by a doctor of the Dutch medical service to be suspended between two bicycles "by means of well articulated pieces, a single frame which is solid as well as light and extremely easy to assemble and take apart".

In January 1913 attention was given to the transporting of wounded in fighting at sea. Having published a memorandum on the question of transporting these wounded between warships, hospital ships and the shore, an American doctor is "one of the first to attempt to introduce Red Cross medical formations expressly organized for such purposes in fighting at sea".

Attention was given in January 1900 to the lighting of battle-fields to seek out the wounded and give them care at night. "For this purpose resort was made to electric lighting by means of large reflectors on carts, with powerful dynamos or batteries carried on mens' backs". One doctor suggests a simpler and more economical method of using "acetylene lamps on the battle-field", which the Bulletin described as being "a step forward".

In January 1913 a long analysis is given in the "Messenger russe de la Croix-Rouge" of a proposal made by a Russian naval medical officer. This was "the classification of the wounded on the battle-field" the idea of which had been put into practice for the first time by Pirogor, the famous Russian surgeon. During the siege of Sebastopol he had "organized the sorting of the wounded, corresponding to the urgency of carrying out surgical operations". This classification "was made by labels attached by medical personnel to the wounded on the battle-field or after the first dressing. . . The adoption of this system of vouchers in all armies would in particular facilitate aid to the wounded".

The red cross emblem

Regular accounts are given of funds administered by the International Committee. In 1913 it was learnt that the Red Cross "Empress Maria Feodorovna" International Fund was set up "to award prizes to the inventors of the best methods of ameliorating

the suffering of wounded and sick military", at the same time as the institution of a Florence Nightingale Medal to be distributed in future to "nurses who have distinguished themselves exceptionally by their devotion to sick or wounded in time of peace or of war". The task of a special committee was to put this into effect and inform "the International Committee of the selection of a designer and of the medal to be struck for distribution to those meriting it". Previously, the Augusta Fund had also been the subject of several articles.

In the same context, different competitions were organized by the ICRC and other institutions on a variety of subjects, such as, "the art of improvising aid methods (1881)", the plan of a "transportable ambulance hut" (1885) and "the abusive employment of the emblem and name of the Red Cross (1889)". Prize-winning descriptions were also published. There is also frequent mention of the emblem and the protection it brings to those who have the recognized right to wear it. Qualitatively selected texts of rules adopted in various countries on the protection of the red cross name and emblem are reproduced in full. In October 1912 there appeared, for example, the text of the Italian regulation on the subject.

In January 1914, the Bulletin referred to two cases connected with this question. There was the prohibition made by the Geneva courts of the utilization of a red cross on the doors and sign-boards of chemist shops and of the "red cross emblem in the watch-making industry" as regards which the Trades-Union of Swiss manufacturers of silver, metal and steel watches had approached the ICRC in Geneva. One can moreover realize, by the number of articles concerning this question of the emblem raised in many countries, the amount of time and efforts needed by the National Societies, as well as the ICRC, to succeed in having the emblem recognized and that a half century was required for it to be widely respected.

The Red Cross and war

Since the signing of the first Geneva Convention occasions were not lacking for the Red Cross to be faced with the realities of war and to this the Bulletin gives regular testimony. Each time they

were, for the Societies of the countries involved as well as for the International Committee, a source of new experience and they contributed, as can be seen in nearly every number, to accustoming armies in the field to the intervention of Red Cross auxiliaries and to respect for the Geneva Convention.

In 1870 the Bulletin published information on the International Agency opened in Basle by the ICRC when hostilities between France and Prussia were known: a centralizing information office first of all, then a warehouse for material. In Geneva also the work continued and the article describing it ends with these words: "Although war is our element, we observe it from too near not to have a horror of it and our aspirations far from being bellicose are eminently peaceful".

The world was, however, to pass through constant crises until the cataclysm of 1914. Further conflicts such as the Turko-Russian war in 1877, the Serbo-Bulgarian war in 1885 and the Balkan wars of 1912-13 obliged the ICRC to set up information agencies, the first in Trieste, the second in Vienna under the direction of the Austrian Central Committee and the third in Belgrade. Meanwhile, it studied and made efforts to improve humanitarian law and also encouraged the founding of new committees whose recognition it subsequently announced in circulars in the Bulletin.

In its number of October 1914 it described the unleashing of a drama of which the episodes were to become extended until 1918 and given considerable space in its columns. By its size and duration, by the number of its victims and its diverse aspects, the First World War was to give the ICRC fresh impetus and demand tasks of it which it was soon to be the only one able to fulfil.

The International Prisoners of War Agency was then started. On the pillars of the Musée Rath in Geneva on a large white screen inscribed in red were the words: "International Committee of the Red Cross—Prisoners of War Agency". The Red Cross then became, according to Romain Rolland "one of the purest lights illuminating the night of these fateful years".

By the end of October 1914, there were some 400 people working for the Agency daily or part-time, including those working at home. "This", wrote the Bulletin's editor, "is one of the institution's characteristics worthy of note and admiration, this enthu-

siasm for devotion, to be useful to others, this need to co-operate in what can be repaired or softened in the fearful maelstrom of destruction and pain which has been unleashed on Europe".

Until its transformation in 1919 into a Review, the Bulletin, apart from the usual news of National Societies' activities, themselves stretched to the limit in a vast and effective effort of relief, published reports on visits to prisoner of war camps carried out in the belligerent countries by delegates of the ICRC, the texts of protests made by the governments concerned regarding acts contrary to the Geneva Convention. These acts included the bombing of ambulances protected by the emblem of the red cross or the red crescent, attacks on hospital ships, the capture of medical personnel treated as prisoners, etc.

From 1916 onwards protests became more frequent and in particular concerned the torpedoing of hospital ships. In its July 1917 number, a long "Study on law and fact" was devoted to this problem following on "the decision taken by the German Government to attack and sink, without warning or distinction, all hospital ships sailing outside a fixed area in the Channel and the North Sea". Evoking "the principles as well as the spirit of the Geneva Convention applied to naval forces", the author concludes: "It is therefore with entire reason that the International Committee has branded this decree in the name of the principles of the Convention which it is charged with defending".

History's witness

The Bulletin represents a unique and irreplaceable source of documentation on the history of the Red Cross. In a more general sense, it invites the following reflections.

How, first of all, can one not remark the courage of the certain taking up of positions such as the one which has just been mentioned concerning this German decree. A Committee, which has no other moral authority than to speak on behalf of mankind, dares accuse an all-powerful government of violating a humanitarian Convention! On different occasions also during half a century, one is struck by the decided tone, by the assurance of certain declarations and all the more so when one thinks that the ICRC was less known

than it is today and that it had not yet acquired the moral authority which it has at present.

One is impressed by the importance, the power even of individual action in the last years of the previous century and in the first of those following. There are the great personalities who intervene with the authorities, talking as equal to equal, enthralled by their subject and all devoted to the Red Cross ideal. Through tenacity they often succeed in advancing the cause they are supporting and arousing increasing response at a time when people were believing so strongly in continuous progress. Biographical notes written about them in the Bulletin show that their strength lay in a belief; by fighting for mankind they felt themselves to be following the steps of history.

The appearance of a regular ICRC publication did not prevent National Societies from creating their own periodicals which since then have continued to increase. It can be seen, however, that international and national publications can well exist side by side. Later the division of the world has already been seen by divergences in language, soon made evident by the fact that it was no longer sufficient to produce a review in French, but that consideration had to be given to other tongues, whilst allowing it to keep the role of meeting point for searching, redefining and asserting humanitarian thought, confronted by a world which is changing at an ever faster rate and whose foundations are being re-examined all the time.

Besides, the thousands of pages in the Bulletin reveal fine examples of good-will, full of patience and attention. They testify to renewed efforts of friendship, never discouraged by conflicts which are always breaking out, by more and more victims and conflicts which have become universal. The Bulletin therefore remains one of those rare publications in which only an ideal, in the real sense of the word, is shown giving encouragement to actions of aid and inspiration to give service to others as an object in life.

J.-G. LOSSIER

* * *

Fifty years of the “Review”

“ Oh, War is not dead! ” cried Henry Dunant at the end of the last century, observing with rigorous penetration that “ To judge the past in the light of Holy Writ, after studying the long succession of centuries fraught with wars, is to see history as an indelible indictment of the human species ”.

The *International Review of the Red Cross*, whose fifty years cover the period of the worst bloodshed, the most blood-stained chapter of history, would be the most accusing document in the trial of humanity.

How many wars and international crises; how many atrocities; how much human suffering—on the fields of battle, in prison camps and in occupied territories where people lead an aimless life, deprived of food, medical supplies, shelter and everything else—what terrible events and profound upheavals are recorded in the pages of this Review for today’s readers! This periodical is first and foremost a faithful mirror of the inexorable march of time since the first great world holocaust.

The chronicle starts with the sequels of the First World War: visits to prison camps, repatriation of prisoners, mutual accusation lodged with the International Committee by belligerents concerning breaches of the Geneva and The Hague Conventions. Then came the civil war in Russia followed by the infernal welter of successive local or international crises where the protagonists of conflicting ideologies, power-thirsty governments and people yearning

for independence and freedom came to grips to the detriment of mankind. This cycle was interrupted only by an event even more terrible and revolting; the devastation and world-wide slaughter of the Second World War.

As it does in respect of less extensive conflicts, the Review bears witness, for hundred of pages, many of them illustrated by frightful but realistic photos, to the activities of the International Red Cross: International Committee delegates at the front, in camps, among the wounded, among the prisoners of war and interned civilians; representatives of the League of Red Cross Societies and National Red Cross Societies providing relief—a glass of milk, a blanket, life-saving medicines—to people in distress, the wretched victims of forces beyond their comprehension and against which they are defenceless.

The Review is also a witness to a fatal degeneration of international ethics; during the Second World War, it did not record any protests from belligerents who, twenty years earlier, to condemn their enemies' acts which they deemed incompatible with the norms established by general consensus, would have turned to the custodian of those norms—the central Red Cross body. No humanitarian rules are respected when strategic interests dictate otherwise: war is waged without pity; barbarity is admitted and condoned.

In spite of its ceaseless efforts, the Red Cross cannot provide assistance to all in need. The Review relates not only the activity of its representatives but also the appeals it launches, the position it adopts and the explanation it offers to those who accuse it of inaction. It is true that the Red Cross has its limits. It cannot take sanctions against breaches of humanitarian rules, for there is no universally respected ethic. For example, it could not gain access to concentration camps; even to-day it is prevented from feeding starving children and it still seeks ways and means of intervening in fratricidal wars which thwart rules dependent on the good will of the parties engaged in conflicts.

There are two fields in which this undertaking of the Red Cross is carried on, with the aim of broadening the scope of humanitarian action and of improving resources, namely the law of war, and medical equipment and personnel. In the former, a determined effort is

being made to change the Geneva Conventions to meet the realities of constant evolution in order:

to draw conclusions from the rapid developments of modern science and technology whilst extending the protection afforded by established rules—in the hope that they will be respected—to cover not only soldiers and prisoners but also women, old people and children or, in other words, to civilian population in need;

to break the grip of sacrosanct national sovereignty so that relief and consolation may be brought to the victims of internal conflicts which are becoming more and more frequent due to the fear of the destructive potential of atomic war on a world scale; and

to forbid chemical, bacteriological and nuclear weapons which human ingenuity has made available in the service of death.

A regular feature appeared for years on this subject. It was related to "the protection of civilian populations against aero-chemical warfare", gave an analysis of measures taken against chemical and bacteriological warfare in several countries and studied these new methods of fighting.

In addition, the Review periodically reminds its readers, in articles written by the most knowledgeable authors, of the principles of humanitarian action of which Red Cross institutions are the depository and the guardians.

Efforts are exerted to make relief material resources on the field of battle ever more effective. On this subject, and especially during the inter-world war period, the Review has published studies and reports by commissions and specialised institutions on the improvement of stretchers and mountain transport equipment for use by the armed forces medical services and National Societies, and on the medical aircraft which began after the 1914-18 war. Today, such studies may to us seem out-moded, but they do show how serious attention was given to practical problems of relief to the wounded.

Medical personnel training, recruitment, teaching methods and working conditions are also dealt with at length in the Review which closely follows efforts to improve the standards of such personnel. Particular attention is given to female nurses; questions related to their work take up more and more space in the columns

of the Review. Similarly, rehabilitation of the wounded and disabled and the constant attention which the Review gives to these questions show how concerned the Red Cross is for the victims of wars and natural disasters.

*

Before 1919, relief in time of war was the main concern of the Red Cross. From that year, concomitantly with the founding of the League of Red Cross Societies, another problem was tackled by the Red Cross: relief in natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes and famine. The Review then began reporting on these new activities and the ever increasing assistance provided by the League in various quarters of the globe.

Innumerable humanitarian actions by Red Cross institutions are recorded in the pages of the Review which, even in its early years viewed broad horizons on a world scale. It thus became the mouthpiece of inchoate international co-operation.

The proposal by the Italian senator Ciraoio with a view to co-ordinating the efforts of member States of the League of Nations to increase assistance to the victims of natural disasters proportionate to their distress, and the proceedings of the body set up as a result of that proposal—the International Relief Union—were followed by the Review with close attention.

At the same time, the Review gave an account on the changing problems of child welfare and particularly the work of the International Union for Child Welfare founded to co-ordinate efforts on a world scale to provide a better life for future generations. It also attached great importance to the codification of human rights in the Universal Declaration and in the European Convention, and some of its pages were devoted to penetrating analyses of the interdependence between these rights and the ideals of the Red Cross.

Editors of the Review could not ignore the refugees who, following wholesale in the wake of military defeats, implacable ideological persecutions or pogroms motivated by racial or other hatred, became more and more a feature of our unhappy times. Their problems and the relief given to them unsparingly by the Red

Cross and other international organizations, such as the UN High Commissioner, are accurately related and examined. International agreements for their protection and assistance are described and analysed.

A word must also be said on migration—a phenomenon as old as mankind itself but an everyday occurrence in our modern world. These movements and the development of activities by institutions especially concerned with this modern problem, such as the Inter-governmental Committee for European Migration, are regularly covered by the Review.

The Review devotes more and more space to international co-operation. During the last 25 years we have seen emerge onto the world scene the countries of the "Third World". Other civilizations apart from the "Euro-Christian", such as those of Islam, India and China, have been given prominence. Articles by such authorities as Louis Massignon, Paul Masson-Oursel and Paul Demiéville have explained the humanitarian idea and the concept of "service to one's fellow man" elsewhere than in Europe where the Red Cross was born, and they also deal with legal and moral rules inseparable from these civilizations and similar to the standards laid down by the humanitarian Conventions.

*

Apart from these great themes in which history is confronted with the human condition in the world today, the Review discusses the Red Cross world's own problems: various aspects of the functioning of its international and national institutions, practical difficulties and outstanding events in its history. Some of the chapter headings are regular features, such as the International Committee's annual reports on its activities, its finances and the management of the various funds of which it is the trustee, the reports by various National Societies which appeared in the "Bulletin" which continues to be published as part and parcel of the Review.

In this connection, the early years of the Review were marked by an event, namely the foundation of the second international body of the Red Cross, the League of Red Cross Societies. In the

pages of the Review we can trace step by step the League's development, oriented mainly to the discharge of peacetime missions; we may observe the quest for a dividing line between the work of the ICRC and that of the League; we may read about the continuous adjustment of Red Cross structures both national and international.

Other major concerns of Red Cross leaders, described in the Review, are problems relating to the sign, the protection it affords and the dissemination of knowledge of the Geneva Conventions. The nature and significance of the sign, the danger latent in its multiplication, the aspects of its function and the need to protect it against misuse for commercial purposes, have been analysed in a series of articles. Many instances are given also of proposed or existing national laws to provide that protection in the countries concerned. The need to disseminate knowledge of the Geneva Conventions is clearly brought out in the articles on this question, which is as urgent as it is important. To inculcate upon people, even in their childhood, the basic principles underlying these Conventions is to work for the reorientation of education towards humanitarian ideals.

In Red Cross history, the Junior Red Cross is a chapter unto itself. Its foundation, extension, activities and its ups and downs are related in the Review. It is to be hoped that, in view of the present-day restlessness of youth, it will be given even greater coverage henceforth.

The Review deals very fully with the history of assistance to the wounded and the treatment of prisoners of war in past centuries, as well as with the birth of the Red Cross and the development of international law as a precursor of the rules contained in the first Geneva Convention. Readers may find therein some admirable passages from J.-J. Rousseau, the father of modern humanism, on the imperious need to see in the disarmed or wounded enemy no more and no less than a fellow human being.

The memory of outstanding people in the history of the Red Cross—Henry Dunant, Gustave Moynier, Louis Appia, Gustave Ador and Max Huber—was frequently recalled, opportunities for doing so having been provided by various centenary celebrations. Many pages have also been devoted to great names in humanitarian

FIFTY YEARS OF THE "REVIEW"

action such as Florence Nightingale, the Empresses Shôken and Augusta, the Grand Duchess Louise of Baden, Anna Nery, Josephine Butler, Fridtjof Nansen, Elsa Brandström, Albert Schweitzer and others.

*

It is only to be expected that the Review during its fifty years has undergone several "face-lifting" operations to meet the needs of the hour and the ideas of new editors. Its presentation was changed at the beginning of the Second World War when priority was given to the activities of the International Committee and its delegates. Later, towards 1955, it was adapted to the requirements of a more modern, more vivid, communications media. Other changes introduced from time to time included new sections such as "Notes and Documents" (since become "Miscellaneous") and such chronicals as "A Delegate's Account".

Bibliographical notes and summary records of meetings have often been included in the Review, informing readers on contemporary thought relative to service in spirit and action, or on progress in medical science contributing to the development of knowledge in the field of health.

The supplements in English, Spanish and German, and later the complete English version, demonstrate the importance of the Review as a link between the distant parts of the Red Cross world, between its various organizations and the official circles of countries signatories to the Geneva Conventions, and between National Societies and the international institutions.

A link, a reflection of human suffering and of constantly shifting reality, the *International Review of the Red Cross* is at the same time a valuable witness to events of our time.

V. SEGESVARY

Wide open to Humanitarian Problems

Under this self-explanation heading which is justified on merely reading the Table of Contents of the Revue internationale since 1919, we give extracts of some articles which have appeared in our publication over half a century. The selection may indeed be arbitrary, but its purpose is merely to show the diversity and importance of the subjects dealt with. Those years have been of capital importance and corresponded to a turning point in history all the more profound as all problems have found themselves raised anew.

How did the Red Cross movement not succumb to the blow? It thus has constantly to rethink its practical action and examine the place and effectiveness of its principles in the context of a world undergoing rapid transformation.

The International Review plays a useful role in this direction. Indeed it enables sign-posts to be set up along the way as objectively as possible, illustrates contributions made by different civilizations to humanitarian aims, brings the experience of serving others to the forefront, studies the origin and development of international humanitarian law and gives permanent account of the more important activities of assistance under the emblems of the red cross, red crescent and red lion and sun. (Ed.)

* * *

The Red Cross in Schools

On 8 May 1908, Dunant's eightieth birthday, the Swedish flag floated above all schools of the kingdom in honour of the famous promoter of the Red Cross foundation, and a booklet printed for the occasion was read to pupils and distributed liberally on the instructions of the Minister of Education.

This is an example on which to ponder, a magnificent precedent which should not be lost on the Red Cross. What we learn at school remains indelibly printed on the mind and unquestionably exerts a generally decisive influence on our whole life.

EDMUNDO GREINER

August 1919

If we wish to ensure and consolidate the triumph of new ideas of charity and active brotherhood, the school can contribute considerably and with the greatest effectiveness in all countries. Everything is in a state of change today. No longer are things regarded as they were previously. People no longer have the same ideals and they resolutely condemn what was admitted and even admired only yesterday. Teaching in schools must therefore necessarily share in this development and even be its champion, its knowledgeable and wise mentor.

The patriotism of former years used to excuse, demand and even sanctify if need be the most odious crimes. All for the fatherland, even if, led by men known to be mad, it was in the wrong and went headlong into the worst possible adventures. Patriotism has fortunately developed. Love of one's country is as strong as ever, but modern education has tempered it with formerly unknown discretion. One need not blush for what one loves. We want our country to be strong, but honest; ready to defend itself, but respectful of others' rights; worthy and just and not deceitful and lacking in scruples. Only when these qualities prevail everywhere will peace uncontested reign on earth.

So far the feats of the Cyruses, the Alexanders, the Hannibals and the Caesars have been presented with too much enthusiasm to the admiration of youth in most textbooks. The conquerors are portrayed as demi-gods eclipsing all others. There is room only for them. Their least gestures are given attention. Their sayings and witticisms are quoted. Pleasure is taken in following them everywhere. But these idols

must fall and inspire only a very relative enthusiasm. Their impressive glories are built on the mountains of human bodies at a cost of blood from thousands and thousands of our fellow men. They have inflicted harm, suffering and tortures without name on humanity without any benefit. How greatly do I prefer the calm and pure glory of a Rousseau, a Dunant or a Pasteur!

True, we cannot change history. But we may compare the past with the present and by judicious comparisons guide youth along the present post-war road towards the welfare of all...

... In these conditions, it is easy to understand how useful school can be to the Red Cross for the dissemination of its principles, the recruitment of its members and even for the accomplishment of its task for, whilst it is true that school children, in view of their youth, cannot help immediately, they will become men and women, and fine sincere and well prepared co-operators. They will have the vocation, will be properly taught and will be aware of what the institution expects of them.

We could introduce into schools preparatory courses on Red Cross theory and special exercises in Red Cross practices. There are gymnastic sections and boy scouts in colleges. There have also been school battalions. Why should there not be miniature relief columns? We believe this feasible and even easy. In fact, far from being a burden for young people, the teaching of Red Cross ideas is something in the nature of recreation, useful recreation it is true but recreation nevertheless, that is to say involving no physical tiredness and demanding no extraordinary tension of the mental faculties...

... Let us then introduce the Red Cross into schools. This is not the wandering of some veteran of the Red Cross who sees nothing but the Red Cross in the world. But it is the wish of one of the institution's devoted friends who, through long experience, knows how much remains to be done to perfect Red Cross services and make them really worthy of their high calling.

International Ethics and the Red Cross

... If the Red Cross had limited itself to the affirmation of a principle: *inter arma caritas*; if it had not successfully striven to ensure that principle's direct applications, the Red Cross would have had no real influence, for every moral idea is of value only so long as it is translated into practice in the life of individuals and societies. For that reason we must give our whole-hearted applause for the way in which Red Cross

EDMOND BOISSIER
May 1923

activities have developed and are still developing each day, extending their scope from prisoners of war and other war victims, to the victims of disasters of all kinds, making up, no longer only during war but also in time of peace, for the inadequacy of official institutions and taking every necessary initiative to help suffering mankind. It may therefore be stated that the Red Cross, to borrow a biblical phrase, shows its faith through its work.

Nevertheless, in these troubled times and in view of its many practical activities, it is a good thing for the Red Cross not to forget the "faith" which inspired its "works". This is useful because its work—especially when as a result of world war that work is concentrated within the national territory—could, at least temporarily, cause it to be a little forgetful of the institution's higher aim.

That aim is not solely to give care and material assistance: in these unhappy times the institution must also, through the testimony of all those who appeal to it, convey a message of hope and trust to distressed humanity which is more divided than at any period of history.

The reason for the existence of the Red Cross, we repeat, is to promote the principle of international ethics from which it sprang. However, the mission of supporting that ideal may not be left to the International Committee alone. Apart from their immediate and practical tasks, National Societies too are the apostles of this common ideal.

In its foreword in November 1918 to its *Actes pendant la guerre 1914-1918* which we wish to recall here, the International Committee wrote:

"Whilst National Red Cross Societies have specific duties, whilst their obligations and prerogatives are laid down in definite texts, the

International Committee has a freedom of action which no statute may restrict. Its programme is simple and broad. Faithful to its duty, it is the defender of charity and justice. It must not only proclaim these two principles, without which there would be no humanity worthy of the name, but must protect them against attack. Transcending national rivalries, it must seek to embody universal conscience”.

The time has come to state that this noble programme is not the prerogative of this Committee; it can and indeed must henceforth be the programme of all societies bearing the name Red Cross. There is for the Red Cross as a whole, viewed as one historic element of modern international life, a spiritual mission to be fulfilled; it consists of working constantly to establish and develop international ethics or a set of rules to which relationships among States and nations should be subordinate.

This will be propagated by the Red Cross first and foremost through its activities, but only on condition that charity is prompted solely by what we like to call “the Red Cross spirit”. It is in that spirit that the Red Cross should exert its influence on international morals; and because society’s consent and adaptation to certain rules for communal living precede and prepare the ground for the establishment of laws, future international law must be provided with constantly broadening bases founded on customs, usages, aspirations and the ideals which are the prerequisite of such laws.

In the slow process of building a better society of States—sometimes violently interrupted and placed in jeopardy—the Red Cross has a mission, a responsibility, because it has the backing of tradition and influence. The obstacle which it must break down is the one which stands in the way of any progress in international order. Logically and in fact it is the same one which hinders the best qualities of individuals from thriving and which slackens the pace of social improvements. Just as personal selfishness is the eternal adversary of individual and social progress, national selfishness is the enemy of all sincere co-operation among nations; the more so as, under the imposing and grand name of national sovereignty, it has achieved the elevated level of intangible and sacred dogma.

It is not for the Red Cross to join issue, in politics—which are taboo to it—with doctrines which are harmful to human welfare: but it has the imperious duty of training in all countries an elite which, eager to carry on the work begun by the Geneva Convention, will demonstrate through its work, its broadmindedness, the impartial generosity of its practical activities and its dedication, that it intends to continue to be the apostle of that international moral code which should win over the hearts of men of good will before being sanctioned by treaties and laws governing relationships among nations. There is at present no apolitic

or temporal body better able to act as the advocate of this profound yearning of peoples for a single moral law applicable to nations and individuals. At the same time as it continues and extends its relief work, the Red Cross must be an educator in justice and love among men and nations.

The New Geneva Conventions and the Red Cross

... What are the legal bases in the four new Conventions which provide the International Committee of the Red Cross with grounds for its traditional activity?

The International Committee's right to take humanitarian initiative, which is basic to its mission, has been not only maintained but extended to civil war, and even to the absence of a Protecting Power.

JEAN PICTET

September 1949

It is still responsible for the formation, whenever it deems it necessary, of the Central Prisoners of War Agency and, moreover, a central agency for information on civilians. This latter agency, with assistance from Red Cross Societies, organizes the exchange of family news when normal correspondence facilities are disrupted.

It is well known that during the two world wars, especially the second, delegates of the International Committee systematically visited prisoner of war camps on the same authority as representatives of the Protecting Powers. This important function did not however involve them in any obligation in international law. It is now specifically covered by the codified law. Committee delegates are authorized to go wherever there are prisoners of war, to talk with them and their spokesman in private. There shall be no restriction on the frequency and duration of the visits and delegates shall have full liberty to choose the places to which they wish to go.

But that is not all. It will be recalled that during the last war access to the camps where so many civilian detainees and deportees met with atrocious death, was refused to the Red Cross and the Protecting Powers. Henceforth, in countries at war, pursuant to the IVth Conven-

tion, all places where civilians are interned for any reason whatsoever shall be open to inspection.

The work of the International Committee in providing material relief to prisoners of war, interned civilians and the population in occupied territory has been specifically recognized. One special provision deals with transport by ship, rail or road as required by circumstances.

Recourse may be had to the International Committee for several other reasons, such as the setting up of hospital and safety zones, the settlement of differences between Powers and the forming of joint medical commissions to visit and decide upon the repatriation of wounded and sick prisoners. The members of these commissions are appointed by the Committee in agreement with the Protecting Power.

In one of its resolutions, the Diplomatic Conference recognized the need to provide the International Committee of the Red Cross with regular financial support so that it may at all times be ready to carry out the humanitarian tasks entrusted to it by the Geneva Conventions.

Clearly then, national and international bodies of the Red Cross will find in the new Conventions more numerous and more solid bases to carry on their humanitarian mission without in any way compromising their character as private institutions, their humanitarian initiative and the special flexibility of their status.

India : Human or Superhuman ?

...Whether buddhistic or brahminic, India venerates religion (dharma), the spiritual discipline either as a regulator of life (brahminism) or as our deliverer (buddhism). This *nirvâna* imposed by buddhism as an ideal even on brahmin orthodoxy (brahmanirvânam) signifies the

PAUL MASSON-OURSEL

November 1951

passage from the relative to the absolute, from the utilitarian to the disinterested. It is obtained when the living person definitively renounces the life-wish and excinds all structures of encumberment resulting from his actions, this burden of *karman* which imprisons him in an

endless existence of ignorance and pain. The Emperor Aṣoka did not regret having caused humans to suffer, but having acted as an “imperialist”, having preferred violence to mercy as a political necessity and having set an example of cupidity. He therefore set himself a task: to spread among the immense opacity of castes the prestige of rejecting caste, among the atrocious life-wish the renunciation of approval, according to the example given by the Çākyaṃuni, the sovereign who instead of turning the “wheel of the law” for wordly ends liberated humanity by giving the wheel a backward thrust.

Let us then resume a comparison of these two attitudes: that of Aṣoka and that of Saint Louis. Did the latter repent having been a warrior? Undoubtedly not, since he fought for christianity. Aṣoka repented for having killed through political necessity. The christian king promoted his faith; the buddhistic emperor, as a sovereign, had to maintain his authority and as a buddhist avoid any propagation of “ignorance” (avidyā)—two contradictory tasks. Neither had the strict duty of respecting life (a western and modern concept). But this event is an excellent occasion to permit us to descry the difference between the oriental and our own occidental ideals. The subject was dealt with tactfully, done justice, and documented precisely by the Reverend Father de Lubac in his recent work *Aspects du Bouddhisme* (Editions du Seuil, Paris, 1951).

The Jāins preached the cult of no-harm (ahimsā) to all living things. This resolute attitude is mandatory for buddhists. It was passed down from the Parsis and adopted completely by Gandhi, for whom it became the very expression of justice. Aṣoka repented for having caused harm. Saint Louis, by contrast, believed he had been equally as just in carrying out the crusade as when dispensing justice beneath a tree in Vincennes. He had no remorse. He held that in both circumstances he had performed his proper duty, that of a christian king. But we moderns, in spite of our scepticism, we flatter ourselves that we understand christianity better than a saint when we regret that Louis IX had not been more charitable. Incidentally, in other respects we consider him to have been weak. It is difficult to judge.

However, it is up to us to act as objective arbiters. Aṣoka was surely aware of christian charity which no doubt consists of loving God through one's fellow men. The feudal king loved his God when wishing christianity would reconquer the Calvary where the Son of God died for the redemption of men. We must not ignore the fact that justice for us is a heritage from both the Jews (Old Testament) and the Greeks, whilst charity comes from the Gospel of Christ. But it must be known also that India has very varied concepts of justice, with as many varieties in fact as there are castes. We must also be aware that buddhism, aloof from

legal rectitude and pure love, is limited to the rejection of illusion and egoism. Lucid and disinterested, it is not compassionate, since it rises above all weakness. The *bodhisattwas* who put off their *nirvâna* to promote the reign of Law are beneficent but do not love, they are rationalists but are not charitable.

As it is delicate to define “ spiritual life ”, the use of the word “ life ” is dangerous. Paradise is neither more nor less than the love of God. *Nirvâna* is the passage from life to death and not to life eternal; its disinterestedness repudiates the life-wish. Buddhistic wisdom differs from that of the Ancient Greeks because it does not, like the philosophy of Plato, postulate ideas of the eternal—although some Gnostics of Western Asia may have attempted syncretisms in this respect. True life is the very basis of any “ realisation ” (*sâdhana*); both the gospel of Saint John and Tantrism, after a fashion, profoundly understood this. Nevertheless the absolute of the metaphysician and of the ascetic demands that life be transcendable.

A Century Before Solferino

During the XVIIIth century wars between England and France, a committee was founded in London for the purpose of supplying clothing to French prisoners of war in England. In 1759, that committee, wishing to report on its activities to its supporters, asked the famous English essayist Samuel Johnson (1709-1784) to write an introduction explaining the motives for the relief action.¹

December 1951

We believe our present-day readers will be interested in what Samuel Johnson had to say and to see how his comments, admirable for their good sense, are still topical. They will see also how, exactly one hundred years before Solferino, Johnson professed opinions concerning prisoners of war and the assistance they should be given which go far; they were indeed

¹ Introduction to the Proceedings of the Committee appointed to manage the Contributions begun at London, Dec. XVIII, MDCCLVIII for clothing French Prisoners of War.

precursors to the seeds of that great idea which, sown in fertile ground, grew into the universal Red Cross movement.

The Committee intrusted with the money contributed to the relief of the subjects of France, now prisoners in the British Dominions, here lay before the public an exact account of all the sums received and expended; that the donors may judge how properly their benefactions have been applied.

Charity would lose its name, were it influenced by so mean a motive as human praise: it is, therefore, not intended to celebrate, by any particular memorial, the liberality of single persons, or distinct societies; it is sufficient, that their works praise them.

Yet he who is far from seeking honour, may very justly obviate censure. If a good example has been set, it may lose its influence by misrepresentation; and to free charity from reproach, is itself a charitable action.

Against the relief of the French, only one argument has been brought; but that one is so popular and specious, that if it were to remain unexamined, it would by many be thought irrefragable. It has been urged, that charity, like other virtues, may be improperly and unseasonably exerted; that while we are relieving Frenchmen, there remain many Englishmen unrelieved; that while we lavish pity on our enemies, we forget the misery of our friends.

Grant this argument all it can prove, and what is the conclusion?—that to relieve the French is a good action, but that a better may be conceived. This is all the result, and this all is very little. To do the best, can seldom be the lot of man: it is sufficient if, when opportunities are presented, he is ready to do good. How little virtue could be practised, if beneficence were to wait always for the most proper objects, and the noblest occasions; occasions that may never happen, and objects that never may be found?

It is far from certain that a single Englishman will suffer by the charity to the French. New scenes of misery make new impressions; and much of the charity which produced these donations, may be supposed to have been generated by a species of calamity never known among us before. Some imagine that the laws have provided all necessary relief in common cases, and remit the poor to the care of the public; some have been deceived by fictitious misery, and are afraid of encouraging imposture; many have observed want to be the effect of vice, and consider casual almsgivers as patrons of idleness. But all these difficulties vanish in the present case: we know that for the prisoners of war there is no legal provision; we see their distress, and are certain of its cause; we know that they are poor and naked, and poor and naked without a crime.

But it is not necessary to make any concessions. The opponents of this charity must allow it to be good, and will not easily prove it not to be the best. That charity is best, of which the consequences are most extensive: the relief of enemies has a tendency to unite mankind in fraternal affection; to soften the acrimony of adverse nations, and dispose them to peace and amity: in the mean time, it alleviates captivity, and takes away something from the miseries of war. The rage of war, however mitigated, will always fill the world with calamity and horror: let it not then be unnecessarily extended; let animosity and hostility cease together; and no man be longer deemed an enemy, than while his sword is drawn against us.

The effects of these contributions may, perhaps, reach still further. Truth is best supported by virtue: we may hope from those who feel or who see our charity, that they shall no longer detest as heresy that religion, which makes its professors the followers of HIM, who has commanded us to "do good to them that hate us".

Respect of the Human Person in Islam

... Forty years of travel in Islamic lands have even led me to the tentative belief that Islam has survived its territorial, economic and technical losses only to keep alive on the world, in the hearts of simple honest village and nomadic moslems uncorrupted by life in towns, a vast and infinitely precious reserve of faith in divine promises, a faith

LOUIS MASSIGNON

June 1952

which is manifested in the welcome extended to all foreign visitors as the Guest, the image of God, the angel sent to Abraham at Mambre, and which should one day bring us realisation of eschatological significance for the salvation of humanity of the sacred Hospitality, of the Right of Sanctuary.

We no longer know how to meditate on the Bible. Hypercriticism has dried up the vital sap. Although Moses, according to Achad Ha'am was, for Israel alone, and thanks to the Thora, the inspired Guide of

all exodus, Abraham, higher yet, was destined to receive to his bosom all the nations, in the heart of the Holy City. And it was Islam which, alone of the three monotheist religions, preserved in the purest fashion that definition of Abraham's role, that "friend of God", Khalil, Allah, giving the Three Angels hospitality in the name of God at Mambre "Ramat al-Khalil". The Koran (XI, 72; XV, 51; LI, 24) three times refers to this text of Genesis (XVIII, 1-33).

It was from this basic text that Islam drew the principle of the *Iqrâ* (*dakhâla*, *jiwâr*), the right to hospitality; of *ikrâm aldayf*, sacred respect of the human person in the guest sent by God.

Four years ago in Paris, the Druze Emir Adil Arslan, a UN delegate, tried to explain this to his foreign colleagues: the sacred value of the right to asylum in Islam. He recounted that a Bedouin woman, a widow (whose husband had been murdered) one night saw a fugitive who ritualistically grasped a pole of her tent as a sign of *Iqrâ*. In keeping with custom, she took the man in, fed him and sheltered him for the three prescribed days then helped him to escape. Yet she had recognized him as her husband's murderer; but he was also the Guest sent by God; as a true daughter of Abraham she believed in him.

I know that this was not invented, whatever most Europeans may think. Neither was it perhaps renunciation of vengeance, but the surrender of vengeance to God whilst observing social custom. And if S. Jean Gualbert's embrace of his brother's murderer, when he by chance encountered him and had him at his mercy, was a superhuman gesture not of this world, we must recognize the fact that the Bedouin widow's gesture counsels us to exceed ourselves; it was a gesture of the Red Cross, of indiscriminated mercy, the only means of bringing about the cessation of the succession of acts of vengeance called war; it does not involve abandonment of the world for a cloister.

I was saved in Islam by this right of asylum, heroically exercised by my moslem hosts for the "spy" which I was said to be. I was not a spy, but there had been so many members of scientific missions who, through European patriotism, had been "information seeking" in Islam that the right of asylum was being ever more rarely exercised. Without going so far as "information seeking", European guests' disregard for hospitality received had discouraged them; even were it only when Europeans sold publicly (I saw this in Beyrouth) prize-beasts which their muslim hosts had bestowed on them, or set up shop with the oriental antiques they had received as gifts.

Am I shocked by these things because I share the muslim trust in the God of hospitality, having several times meditated at Abraham's tomb in Hebron and in his native town of Ur in Chaldea? I do not think so. There are more christians meditating on the Bible here than

is thought, and their heart-searching in the face of the present contempt of "enlightened" people for the right of asylum will undoubtedly result in a crisis of conscience...

The Law of Nations and Humanity

...We must harbour no illusions. Today the safeguard of human rights is a very difficult task particularly in war. If we compare today with 1914, we cannot but observe a certain laxity in attitude towards the law, a decline in the instinctive respect for the limits it lays down. This is no doubt a consequence of the debasement of State legal structures, even those which have not been subject to the upheaval of revolutions or wars. It involves a devaluation of the human person and human life and also the enfeeblement of our sense of legal duty in many spheres. All this explains why a large part of humanity, without any apparent strong reactions, accepts this profound decay in the law of war.

MAX HUBER

August 1952

The first Hague Conference in 1899 prohibited air raids for a period of five years. In 1907 a second conference decided this prohibition should remain valid until the end of a third conference at The Hague, but, with the advent of the first world war, that conference never took place. The prohibition was not legally valid however from 1914 to 1918, the condition that all belligerent States should ratify it not having been fulfilled. In fact, aircraft were used more and more for military purposes and as a result new methods of fighting were employed which profoundly and dangerously changed the nature of war. This change could hardly be better simlized than by the comparison of a superficial wound to a general blood poisoning. However, at the beginning of the second world war, military and legal experts generally recognized that targets from the air should be military objectives alone, although risk to civilians and civilian property could not be eliminated. It seemed out of the question for air forces to terrorize populations and destroy towns. Nevertheless, developments in the techniques of war demonstrated that even what had been thought impossible was to become the rule. The use

of atomic and other so-called "blind" weapons has made the situation even worse.

Now the very fact that these new weapons are indiscriminate and so destructive makes it terribly difficult to draw up effective measures of protection in law, where it is essential to distinguish between persons and things and to establish standards for each. In practice, the force of the most recent weapons and the unpredictability of their effects are such that so far as the law is concerned any differentiation is hazardous.

We are well aware that the application of treaty law standards, however generally and scrupulously applied, can reduce the misery of war only to a minor degree. All that can be done to "humanize" war will never justify disregard of the fact that the maintenance and strengthening of peace are the supreme aim of any policy. But that our action in this field is limited and feeble by comparison with the terrible evils and destruction engendered by war cannot be denied. However, such considerations must not lead us to under-estimate the importance of efforts to protect mankind in time of war. Human life and dignity are not values which can be measured in figures and statistics. Experience in the second world war has shown that the plight of those of whom the Red Cross took care—prisoners of war and interned civilians in occupied territories—was very different from that of people whom the Red Cross had not been authorized to assist. In any case, the humanitarian idea remained alive and thus the way to a better future was not definitively cut off. This is a fact as important as the mutual assistance work accomplished in the practical field. Nothing is worse than scepticism for efforts to safeguard human rights and humanity; if it engenders defeatism, this in reality is no more than a cynical nihilism in disguise.

Be that as it may, we cannot under-estimate the danger arising from the present conflicting ideologies into which are drawn large sections of the people, if not whole nations. Divergent opinions clash; how then can there be understanding when words change their meaning from place to place and suggest associations of ideas which are at variance and even in conflict?

Nevertheless, and despite the apparently discouraging outlook, we must, in the face of adverse circumstances, adopt a moral command, a brave "nevertheless"...

J.-J. Rousseau and the Progress of Humanitarian Ideas

... Rousseau does not deny that men may come to grips and fight. But quarrels, individual fighting, brawls, murders, where everything is settled in an instant, do not constitute a state of war. "War", said Rousseau, "is a continuous state which presupposes constant relationships; and these relationships rarely occur on the level of one man to another, where all between the individuals is in a constant ebb and flow which incessantly changes relationships and interests". It may no doubt be admitted that such relationships may become possible in civil life

ROBERT DERATHE

October 1958

where men are constantly faced with conflicts of prestige or interest comparable with conflicts between States. But the object of the institution of civil authority is precisely to keep the peace and to prevent individuals from settling their own differences, so that in civil society "the state of war cannot arise between individuals".

So, according to Rousseau's first principle, there can be no war between one man and another, either in nature or society. Such is Rousseau's first principle. The second principle is that war can occur only between States or parties politic. "I shall therefore", wrote Rousseau, "call war between Powers the effect of a mutual, constant, and manifest disposition to destroy the enemy State or at least to weaken it by every possible means".

From this definition of war, we have the law of war. It is a universally admitted principle that war gives no right which is not necessary to the pursuit of the aims of war. The end of war is the destruction of the enemy State.

What then is a State? Men become citizens of a State only through the social compact achieved by union or the party politic. It therefore suffices that the pact be broken for citizens to become again a multitude of independent men and no longer a "people". "Basically, the body politic, being no more than a corporate body, is only a reasoning unit. Take away the public compact and the State is instantly destroyed without the slightest change in its composition... What then is war

against a sovereign? It is an attack on the public compact and all that it implies; for a State is essentially that and that alone. If the social compact could be eliminated at one fell swoop, war would instantly cease to exist and simultaneously the State would die without the death of one single man". War could then occur without battles or slaughter if, no more than through the threat of enemy forces, the State were dissolved and the social compact broken. That was the opinion of Montesquieu too, the author of *Esprit des lois*. He held that the State was but the union of men and consequently that the fate of the State and that of the men it comprised were two different things. "It would not follow", wrote Montesquieu, "that the annihilation of society would result in the annihilation also of the men who composed it. Society is the union of men and not the men; the citizen may perish and the man live". Let us however not confuse the destruction of the enemy State and the conquest of the enemy State. Conquest supposes that the citizens of the vanquished State become subjects of the conqueror State. This, according to Rousseau cannot be done without their consent, in other words without a new and at least tacit compact. War itself does not justify conquest and the law of conquest is essentially distinct from the law of war.

It is obvious, moreover, that wars without bloodshed are extreme cases of which history gives us few examples. Normally victory is obtained on the field of battle where armies come to grips and try to destroy each other. Although it may be feasible to wage war without killing anybody, in practice there are nearly always fighting, battles and deaths. From this point of view, a certain right to kill is inseparable from the law of war. Rousseau does not deny this. He believes, however, that the exercise and limits of this terrible right must be defined. It does not extend to all members of the enemy State but only to those bearing arms. Only combatants are entitled to kill each other: others remain aloof from the fighting and should be spared. Such is the significance of the well known formula of the "Social Compact". (book I, chap. IV): "War... is by no means a relation of man to man but of State to State, and one in which individuals are enemies only by an accident of fate and not as men or even as citizens, but as soldiers; not as members of a country, but as its defenders"...

The First Modern Codification of the Law of War

... Within thirty years after the publication of Lieber's Code, Prussia, the Netherlands, France, Russia, Spain, Great Britain, and a number of other states had drawn up their own codes of the rules of warfare. The *Instructions* remained a guide for the conduct of the United States Army throughout the remainder of the nineteenth century, and the 1917 *Rules of Land Warfare* preserved much of Lieber's language.

R. R. BAXTER
May 1963

An immediate consequence of the Code was to inspire Lieber's good friend, Bluntschli, under the urging of his American associate, to undertake his codification of international law, the first part of which, dealing with the law of war, made its appearance in 1866. This portion of Bluntschli's code was little more than a paraphrase of General Orders No. 100. Dr. Bluntschli was counsellor of the German delegation at the Brussels Conference of 1874, the work of which constituted the basis of the conventions prepared at the Hague Peace Conferences of 1899 and 1907. It is thus possible to trace a direct line of personal influence from Dr. Lieber's Code to the Hague Regulations, which served only to add to the great weight which the Code had acquired with the passage of time.

The most serious charge which has been levelled at General Orders No. 100 is that it was overly influenced by the existence of a civil war. It is clear, however, from a reading of the Code itself and from its history that Lieber intended it to be applicable to a war between nations and that he was actually hesitant to include any reference to the law applicable in a civil war. Although the *Instructions* on occasion referred to the practice of the armies of the United States and to the domestic law of that country, Lieber intended that they should be of equal validity to wars between other states.

The criticism of Bordwell is perhaps unduly severe: "But it was a first attempt. It embodied extreme views of the rights of the military occupant over the inhabitants of occupied territory, followed too closely the hard precedent of earlier wars, and was in general diffuse and academic. Written by a non-military man, it lacked the clearness which actual experience would have afforded, and omitted much that might

have occurred to one who had seen responsible service in the field. Furthermore, it was the work of an individual and not of a collective body."

That the *Instructions* were "diffuse and academic" is undoubted. They were also poorly organized and written in a strange manner, which made them appear half statute and half rationalization. But if one disregards form and looks to the substance of the Code, it is possible to discern a mature and logically consistent system, developed and systematized over many years of thinking and teaching. Although Lieber's ideas underwent change even as he prepared new drafts of the Code, the work had for the most part been thought through by the time the Civil War began. Thus, despite the conditions of haste under which the Code was reduced to paper, it had actually been in the making for much of Lieber's lifetime.

It is ultimately to his persistence and energy in promoting the project of a code of instructions for armies of the United States in the field that we probably owe the certainty to which a large proportion of the law of war has been reduced.

THE FLAME OF CHARITY

from Henry Dunant's letters to Dr. Emil Jordy

"See what a beacon you have lit!"

H. Dunant to E. Jordy

In memory of my father,
ICRC delegate: Algeria 1915, 1916;
Greece, Salonica, Macedonia, 1919;
the Smyrna fire, 1922.

Anything concerning Henry Dunant is of interest to members of the Red Cross. We are therefore particularly grateful to Mr. Paul-Emile Schazmann, for many years conservator of manuscripts at the Swiss National Library, for having made available, for the centenary issue of our Review, unpublished writings by Dunant on facts which have so far received no attention. (Ed.)

The Austro-Prussian war of 1866 and the Franco-German war of 1870-1871 were as a baptism of fire for the Red Cross. Its usefulness was incontrovertible. The Emperor Napoleon III realised this so well that towards the end of his life, then in difficulties and in exile in England, he came to the aid of Dunant who was then destitute. In Germany as in France, the Red Cross was applying the principles of the Geneva Conventions. The number of its sections grew incessingly. Everywhere preparations were made to act quickly to alleviate the suffering of the wounded. The army medical services could not cope with all the work. Charitable volunteer corps were formed, ready to go into action on the battlefield and on work sites in the event of accident.

Two types of men were active to put into effect the ideas which Dunant had brought back from Solferino: the promoters of good works who approached sovereigns, governments and statesmen

to induce them to aid or at least allow aid to the wounded; and the organizers of that aid in an increasing number of States.

Among the promoters of aid to the wounded; hospital staff, ambulance drivers, stretcher-bearers, nurses, inspired directly by Henry Dunant's ideal, was Dr. Emil Jordy who, with an extensive experience of first-aid in accidents, played an outstanding role in Switzerland and shortly afterwards elsewhere, specially in England. His correspondence with Henry Dunant¹ shows inter-alia the ever widening compass of the new principles applicable to any man whose wounds made him defenceless.

Dr. Jordy was a pioneer in the field of various volunteer corps: the Saint John's Ambulances Society in England, "hospitaliers", "Samaritains" in Switzerland and in Germany. He specialized in the treatment of accident casualties but he also waged war on Sunday drinking when he observed the increasing statistical evidence of Monday's disasters². He gave courses in first aid, the practical exercises of which he supplemented by conferences at a more advanced level, so that he soon acquired a large audience and drew Dunant's attention when Dunant had retired to Heiden. Continuous contact was established between the two men: the perspicacious idealist and the practical man in his prime and with a vast experience.

Dr. Jordy's courses to first-aiders in Berne began in 1895 by a warm tribute to Henry Dunant entitled: "A Parable Comes True"³. In that message he recalled the origin of the two great principles of aid to the wounded, affined to the Parable of the Good Samaritan: on the one hand, the remedy of the wretched plight of soldiers abandoned on the field of combat, the "stragglers" to use the unfeeling expression of a sovereign of the time; on the other hand, the organisation of arrangements to enable them to communicate with their families.

Two other major principles of the Red Cross are the background to the correspondence between Dunant and Jordy: one

¹ Fifteen long letters, one accompanied by a draft for a Swiss League of Human Rights, written by Dunant to Emil Jordy, were acquired in 1938 by the Swiss National Library. As the Conservator of that Library's manuscripts, I have had them put on display and I showed them to Mr. Thorès Bodet, UNESCO Director-General and to his successor Mr. Luther Evans.

² Cf. *Journal de Genève*, 9 May 1898, which devotes a front page article to Dr. Jordy's activity.

³ *Ein Gleichnis wird zur Thatsache*, Berne 1895.

was that assistance to the wounded should be protected by an emblem which confers neutrality on the wounded, an idea which first came to Dunant on his return from Solferino when he was in the drawing-room of the Countess Verri-Borromée during a meeting of the Welfare Committee of the Ladies of Milan which had just been formed; the other was that everyone's right to equal treatment should be guaranteed, without distinction of origin, nationality, sex or colour. Dunant always defended these principles: in Geneva where he had met Harriet Elizabeth Beecher-Stowe, the author of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*; in North Africa where he had seen for himself the problem of slavery; at Solferino where, with the help of local women, he cared for the wounded of both sides who to his helpers were *Tutti fratelli* (all brothers).

* * *

These letters of Dunant take us first of all into the home at Heiden, in the proud misery of that room littered with papers, reminders of the beginning of the Red Cross and describing the various stages of its progress, while its founder has not even a tea-pot to make himself some tea. In the first letter, however, Dunant refers to a new step forward in the dissemination of his appeal for charity on the field of battle¹:

Dear Mr. Jordy,

You are very kind and I am very grateful. You thought to send me the newspapers and news from the bazaar and of the President's speech. And then there were also your other kind attentions—too numerous to mention!

Thanks to you everything went off all right and I am very happy and full of gratitude to you and Mrs. Jordy and the Committee of the "Dames Samaritaines" of Berne.

You have been most indulgent in respect of my paper work, so badly done, in haste and not even bound. How did you manage to make something of it! Nevertheless your idea to show how the

¹ These extracts of Dunant's manuscripts were originally in French of which we now give the English translation.

ladies took part in accomplishing the work of the Red Cross was excellent.

When your note reached me this morning I said to myself: if I was not afraid of being indiscreet I would write to Dr. Jordy how grateful I would be, since these ladies are so kind as to wish to make me a present of a small souvenir, if they would send me a small teapot with a little good tea and a spirit stove so that I may heat my own water...

The bazaar mentioned in this letter had been organized for the benefit of the Red Cross. There was on sale among other things a popular 60 centime edition of *Souvenir de Solférino* for the purpose of raising funds for a gift to its author Henry Dunant. In this way this moving book began to reach the many people who spoke of it but had never read it.

However, Dr. Jordy was preparing a new conference based on papers provided by Dunant. This was organized by the "Société des Samaritains" and took place before a large audience in the Council Chamber of Berne Town Hall. Jordy spoke on the life and work of Henry Dunant and of the role in the accomplishment of that work of women such as the housewives of Castiglione; the Countess of Gasparin who, after Solferino, first organized aid from abroad; Princess Mathilde Bonaparte, President of a welfare league in Paris; Empress Eugénie, who was striving to have the Red Cross extended to the seas; Queen Augusta of Prussia, the first sovereign to support Henry Dunant's cause, at the Berlin Congress in 1863; and Florence Nightingale, the heroine who assisted the wounded during the Crimea war.

The conferences and publications by Dr. Jordy on Dunant's work and the role of the volunteers in caring for wounded, contributed to recognition of the "Samaritains" as an integral part of the Red Cross, as already provided for in Switzerland by an agreement in 1893. The first honorary members of the "Alliance des Samaritains suisses" were Henry Dunant and Florence Nightingale, by unanimous vote on 16 June 1895. Dunant was immediately advised by telegram. Jordy, with a letter of introduction

from Dunant, took Florence Nightingale her diploma. Almost paralysed as a result of sickness contracted in Crimea, the benefactress of the wounded at Scutari spoke enthusiastically with Dr. Jordy about the founder of the Red Cross.

This recognition of Dunant's merit by the associations which gave voluntary aid to the wounded was soon to be followed by honorary distinctions from all parts of the world, e.g.: the Binet-Fendt prize awarded by the Swiss Federal Council, the prize of the town of Moscow where, on a proposal by Professor Virchow, Dunant's admirers collected signatures of 800 Russian doctors; and finally the Nobel prize for peace.

In further letters to Dr. Jordy, Dunant spoke of his ideas which had spread universally, the appreciation of his work in *L'Etranger* the organ of the "Société de correspondance internationale", in Paris and in *Le Mouvement hygiénique* of Brussels. Dunant was impressed when he learned that in France the bishops of Reims and Autun had described his work and uttered his praise from the pulpit and that the major newspapers as well as the various religious periodicals were fanning the embers:

"The Journal des Débats included a most favourable article of almost two columns by Maurice Muret, and the same writer contributed 16 pages in Franck Puaux's 'Revue Chrétienne'. That is what most surprised me. On the one hand, the Bishops of France are preaching sermons in which they also speak highly of my poor person when they mention the Red Cross. Then in their turn the Jewish Journals, particularly 'Der Welt' (sic) are jubilant at my tolerance... You see what a beacon you have lit!"

This enthusiasm did not unfortunately please everyone and the reaction of some of his adversaries filled Dunant with fear for his very precarious material situation. He wondered whether his creditors, who had not given any sign of life for 31 years, could "force their way into a room in hospital to seize what I receive from Russia?"

By this he meant the small allowance with which the Tsarina's mother had provided him since 1897 and which he used to publish and distribute writings on the Red Cross. In this new phase of his existence Dunant's greatness again came to the fore when he him-

self kept to the background—he even renounced the cash of the Nobel prize. He wanted to protect all men against laws and persecutions without amnesty or pardon and which, moreover, differed from one country to another, and even from one canton to another. What to him appeared unjust in his plight he wished to prevent happening to others; he appeals for tolerance, fraternity, recognition of fundamental rights exceeding regional sanctions and he drafted the statutes of a “Ligue suisse des droits humains” which he sent to Dr. Jordy in 1898 with an explanatory note:

“I hope you will be kind enough to join the new society which I am now organizing, in Berne and the draft statutes of which I am sending you. It should fit well with your own ideas. . . . Any additions or changes you might suggest to these statutes will be most welcome. . . .”

In another letter, Dunant was more insistent:

“I especially recommend to your attention and your interest the project for a “Ligue suisse des droits humains” which I sent you in the foregoing letter. It is not only useful, but necessary, and should be of interest to everyone, for who can think themselves always protected from all injustice? Look at the Dreyfus case for instance, and so many others. We must set the good example. . . .”

The author of the draft, which is another stone in the edifice of human rights, seventy years of age and sick, was no longer able to form the league intended to defend principles of humanity, justice, freedom and true civilization.¹ Emil Jordy, for his part, was busy in other ways.

The great work of Henry Dunant is of course the Red Cross. When finally world opinion expressed its gratitude, Dunant did not forget the “Samaritains” who contributed to converting the

¹ Cf. my articles: *Henry Dunant und die Menschenrechte* in *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, 22. Sept. 1968; *Droits de l'homme, un inédit d'Henry Dunant* in *Journal de Genève*, 5 Oct. 1968; *Une évolution historique rattache la Suisse à la déclaration des droits de l'homme de l'ONU*, in *L'Ecole bernoise*, Berne, Dec. 1954 and Jan. 1955. These give many facts on human rights in Switzerland and mention that Dunant himself drafted a project for a *Ligue suisse des droits humains* a manuscript of which is in the Swiss National Library.

Word into a living reality at the same time as they helped to rekindle the flame:

"I wanted even more to write to you" he said on 21 November 1901 to Emil Jordy, "because I have not thanked you as I ought to have done for the trouble you took and the kindness you have shown by your efforts in Christiana. I thank you with all my heart. You will have seen that you succeeded in having my name taken into consideration by these gentlemen of Norway. Whatever the outcome, it is a great honour to have obtained the greatest number of votes at Christiana. Thirty seven! 37 "authorities", that is to say: associations, societies, guilds from all countries, forming "authorities" according to the Nobel Committee Statutes and of which the "Dames Bernoises Samaritaines", their president in the lead, are one; they have been kind enough to remember me and I thus received the majority of corporative or collective votes.

But I shall never forget that it was the "Dames de Berne" — through your valuable and kind personal initiative—who were first, some years ago, with such generosity, to remember the founder of the Red Cross, then living in distress. You might well say that I am proud of them.

Among the associations which gave me their votes were the Norwegian Red Cross and nearly all the Women's Associations of Sweden and Norway. Another was the "Alliance Universelle des Femmes pour la Paix" whose headquarters is in Paris, with an affiliated membership of five million and which has done me the honour of appointing me Honorary President. The vote of another "authority" was that of forty members of the Wurttemberg Council. In short, there were votes from all countries, and that makes me very happy even if I am not awarded the prize or if it is shared with the venerable Mr. Frédéric Passy, who had the most votes after me.

It is already a year since one of the 5 members of the Nobel Committee, the famous Björnston Bjonterson (sic—i.e. B. Björnson) said: "Mr. Dunant deserves to be rewarded..."

However, Dunant's strength was failing. On 22 January 1902 he wrote Dr. Jordy from Heiden:

"...the last visit I was able to receive (two years earlier) was from the Crown Princess of Bavaria, the future Queen, née

THE FLAME OF CHARITY

Archduchess of Austria, sister of the Queen of Spain “grande maîtresse” of the First Order of the “Dames de la Chrétienté”, “l’Ordre de Thérèse de Bavière”. She came with her two daughters and other people from the Court just to see me. She stayed for half an hour at least, arranging the pillow of my arm-chair, as I was very ill. I was only able to receive her alone. And since then no one... ”

All this correspondence shows that the dedication of these ladies for the work of assistance to the wounded filled Dunant's heart, whether they were members of the Order of Saint Theresa or of the “Associations de Samaritaines”. When, dressed in white, he went to the help of the Solferino victims, women were working with him at the Saint-Clément de Brescia Hospital to relieve suffering, not only like sisters but like mothers, such as the great lady of Brescia who said to him with supreme simplicity: “I am a mother”! *Sono madre!*

For one hundred years the *Bulletin international* and its successor the *International Review of the Red Cross* have given account of the motherly work of the members of these associations. None of the activity protected by the Red Cross emblem¹ is too lowly or undeserving of the highest respect. It is no doubt because Dr Jordy had understood this role so well that Dunant's door and his great heart were open to him:

“Whenever you are in the vicinity of Appenzel, I shall always be happy to receive a visit from you. I do not wish to see anybody, especially people of the country or interviewers; that is why I have given orders for them not to be admitted, but for you my door will always be open...”

Paul-Emile SCHAZMANN

¹ The letter of 25 January 1902 stipulated the shape of the red cross at the same time as it revealed Dunant's respect for the Geneva Committee's Honorary President: “Take care that the cross is a Greek cross (5 equal squares) and not like the new Federal Cross, as General Dufour, who is sufficient authority I presume, had decided as General in Chief of the Confederation and in agreement with all Federal authorities that the Swiss Cross would be “a white Greek cross against a background of Gules.”

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES

Nigeria

It is by now well known that on 1 August 1969 the ICRC submitted a plan to the authorities in Lagos and in the secessionist territory. On 15 August it received their agreement. Mr. Bignami, the ICRC President's personal representative in Lagos, kept in touch with the Nigerian Government whose reply reached Geneva somewhat later.

The International Committee of the Red Cross noted with satisfaction that the parties to the Nigeria conflict gave their agreement in principle to day flights, to enable the relief action in aid of the war victims to be resumed. It therefore gave its instructions on the spot to enable its plan to be put into effect without delay.

It expressed the firm hope that the belligerents would maintain their favorable attitude as regards execution.

Unfortunately, further difficulties arose and on 16 September the ICRC published the following press release:

The International Committee of the Red Cross has just been informed of the position of the Biafran authorities. These consider that the agreement on day flights made by their representatives and the ICRC is not compatible with that drawn up by the ICRC with the Federal Military Government of Nigeria.

The ICRC considers that as regards methods of execution there exists no incompatibility between these two bilateral

agreements. It is re-examining the situation with the Biafran representatives starting from the point of agreement already reached.

Meanwhile the ICRC states that it has taken the following decisions:

- As regards territory under Federal Army control, the ICRC is continuing its action, in accordance with agreements made with the Federal Military Government of Nigeria, in the spirit of the joint press release of 12 July 1969, and following the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.
- In connection with relief stocks at Santa Isabel and Cotonou, the ICRC will examine with the donors the necessary measures to be taken for their future use.

At the end of September the ICRC was still negotiating with Biafra for the resumption of relief flights to that territory. Food stocks for that purpose then amounted to 10,000 tons in Cotonou and 6,500 in Santa Isabel. The ICRC had, incidentally, requested donors to state how they wished the relief food to be disposed of if the air-lift did not get off the ground soon.

The transfer to the Nigerian Red Cross Society of the ICRC's mission of co-ordinating relief in Nigerian controlled territory was effected in September.¹

As mentioned in a previous issue, the ICRC, on 7 August 1969, wrote to National Red Cross Societies asking them how they proposed disposing of the resources engaged by them in the Nigerian action. As regards personnel, most of these have declared themselves willing to leave them on the spot until the expiry of contracts. Equipment will be handed over, either to the ICRC which will dispose of it as it sees fit, or else to the Nigerian Red Cross.

*

¹ In last month's *International Review* we mentioned the meeting in Lagos on 5 August 1969, convened by the Nigerian Minister of Foreign Affairs, for discussion of ICRC relief operations in the Nigerian conflict. It was attended by representatives of the ICRC and of the main donor countries, including Great Britain.

Health problems in Biafra

The situation regarding epidemics appeared satisfactory in September. There were isolated cases of whooping-cough and measles; no recent cases of smallpox, poliomyelitis or yellow fever were reported.

The BCG vaccination campaign against tuberculosis had begun: Dr. Nicole Grasset of the ICRC, accompanied by Professor Ma and Dr. Vigouroux, arrived on 22 August 1969 in Biafra, bringing 500,000 vaccine doses provided by UNICEF.

The major problem in this action is that of treating considerable numbers of endemic cases, since it will be necessary to have the appropriate means available for detection and long-term therapy.

Saudi Arabia

After taking part in the work of the XXI International Conference of the Red Cross, Mr. Marcel A. Naville, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, paid an official visit to Saudi Arabia where he was received by King Faisal with whom he discussed at length the various aspects of the ICRC's mission in the Arab countries.

Accompanied by his personal assistant, Mr. Raymond Courvoisier and Mr. André Rochat, Delegate-General of the ICRC in the Arabian Peninsula, Mr. Naville also had talks with several members of the Saudi Arabian Government.

The ICRC President's stay was organized by leading members of the Saudi Arabian Red Crescent Society who assisted him throughout his visit.

Middle East

Reuniting of families at Gaza.—At the beginning of August 1969, the ICRC delegation at Amman organized the repatriation to Gaza territory of a certain number of families which had been separated as a result of the June 1967 conflict. Thanks to the ICRC, these persons were thus able to rejoin their relatives, after having lived for over two years in Amman.

Visit to a prisoner of war.—The ICRC delegation in Israel has obtained permission to visit an Egyptian pilot, captured at the beginning of August by Israeli forces. Lightly wounded on his capture, the pilot is at present in good health.

People's Republic of South Yemen

Assistance to detainees and their families.—During their visit to Mansura prison the International Committee of the Red Cross delegates handed parcels containing clothing, cigarettes, tooth-brushes and tooth-paste to the detainees.

In addition the delegation's doctors give home care and medical treatment to detainees families.

Milk distribution.—As already announced, the ICRC delegation in Aden has started its campaign of food assistance with the valuable and effective aid of the National Red Crescent Society.

Two distribution centres of prepared milk were opened this summer: the first at Mansura, which enabled 250 families to receive their ration of milk powder in early July and the other at Crater where 150 families are being assisted. Two further distribution centres are in the process of installation in the Maalla and Sheikh Othman districts.

Assistance to the disabled.—Eleven pairs of crutches and several invalid chairs have been given to the disabled in the Aden hospital, through the ICRC mission. International Committee delegates also distributed 4 pairs of crutches and invalid chairs to the sick in Mukallah.

The ICRC surgical teams which assume the entire responsibility for the operating services of the Al Gamhouriah hospital in Aden and the hospital at Mukallah, capital of the Hadhramaut, are continuing the arduous work involved.

Syria

On 29 August 1969 an aircraft of a United States airline on its way to Tel Aviv was diverted to Damascus.

The International Committee at once intervened through its delegation in Damascus, on behalf of 6 Israeli passengers regarded as being protected persons within the meaning of the Fourth Geneva Convention. On 1 September three Israeli women and a daughter of one of them were released by Syria and handed over to the ICRC delegation to be taken on to Athens.

The ICRC delegation in Damascus obtained permission to visit the two Israeli civilians held there, and did so on 8 September 1969.

Switzerland

On 19 September 1969, the 3 Palestinians detained in Zurich for their attack on an El Al aircraft at Kloten airport last February were visited by delegates of the International Committee of the Red Cross for the third time. They were visited previously on 13 May and 9 July 1969, as mentioned in our August issue.

Once again the ICRC delegates, François Payot and Dr. Reinhold Wepf, accompanied by a translator, talked in private with the detainees, noting their requests and enquiring thoroughly into detention conditions, regardless of the reasons for their arrest. Dr. Wepf examined the detainees.

As usual, the ICRC reported to the Detaining Power.

IN GENEVA

A German publication

The ICRC in 1967 published a brief work of some sixty pages entitled *The Principles of International Humanitarian Law*, which fills a gap, as can be seen, both as regards international public law and in the Red Cross world. It is in fact a synthesis of fundamental notions, often referred to but rarely defined, the proper under-

standing of which is of primary importance for anyone concerned in problems of humanitarian law and especially in its application within the Red Cross.

Going to essentials and giving complete and concise definitions of humanitarian law, in the broad sense, of the Hague and Geneva rules of war and also of the principles which are both the basis and structures of this law of humanity, this volume can be of service to the research specialist as well as being a basis of reflection for all belonging to the Red Cross community. The fruit of modern thought, it is an outline of humanitarian ethics valid for all men whatever their origins, form of civilization or outlook. From the various philosophies, the author has only retained that which is accepted by the greatest number, which can therefore claim to be universal. This is what gives it its originality and its worth.

This attempt at clarification was made inside the Institution itself whose work has not only prepared and encouraged the evolution of this law over the past decades, but also enabled the drawing up of codified texts which today bind nearly all States throughout the world. The author, Jean Pictet, member of the ICRC and Director-General, also wrote the *Red Cross Principles*.

An English version already exists and from today a German translation entitled *Die Grundsätze des humanitären Völkerrechts* is available from the ICRC in Geneva at Sw. fr. 8.—.

IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS MEETINGS IN ISTANBUL

These important meetings which were announced in earlier issues of *International Review* took place from 29 August to 13 September 1969.

They began with the XXX session of the League Board of Governors, that institution's supreme policy-making body. A ceremony to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the League's foundation was held on 5 September.

The XXI International Conference of the Red Cross was attended from 6-13 September by more than 700 delegates representing 92 governments, the ICRC, the League and 84 National Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Societies. Apart from two plenary sessions it included the meetings of the International Humanitarian Law Commission and the General Commission. The main subject of the proceedings was the development of humanitarian law.

The Conference adopted 24 resolutions. The full text of these will be given in our next issue, at the same time as an article on the work and significance of the international meetings which have just been held in Istanbul.

EXTRACT FROM THE STATUTES OF
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

(AGREED AND AMENDED ON SEPTEMBER 25, 1952)

ART. 1. — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) founded in Geneva in 1863 and formally recognized in the Geneva Conventions and by International Conferences of the Red Cross, shall be an independent organization having its own Statutes.

It shall be a constituent part of the International Red Cross.¹

ART. 2. — As an association governed by Articles 60 and following of the Swiss Civil Code, the ICRC shall have legal personality.

ART. 3. — The headquarters of the ICRC shall be in Geneva.

Its emblem shall be a red cross on a white ground. Its motto shall be "Inter arma caritas".

ART. 4. — The special rôle of the ICRC shall be:

- (a) to maintain the fundamental and permanent principles of the Red Cross, namely: impartiality, action independent of any racial, political, religious or economic considerations, the universality of the Red Cross and the equality of the National Red Cross Societies;
- (b) to recognize any newly established or reconstituted National Red Cross Society which fulfils the conditions for recognition in force, and to notify other National Societies of such recognition;

¹ The International Red Cross comprises the National Red Cross Societies, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies. The term "National Red Cross Societies" includes the Red Crescent Societies and the Red Lion and Sun Society.

- (c) to undertake the tasks incumbent on it under the Geneva Conventions, to work for the faithful application of these Conventions and to take cognizance of any complaints regarding alleged breaches of the humanitarian Conventions;
- (d) to take action in its capacity as a neutral institution, especially in case of war, civil war or internal strife; to endeavour to ensure at all times that the military and civilian victims of such conflicts and of their direct results receive protection and assistance, and to serve, in humanitarian matters, as an intermediary between the parties;
- (e) to contribute, in view of such conflicts, to the preparation and development of medical personnel and medical equipment, in co-operation with the Red Cross organizations, the medical services of the armed forces, and other competent authorities;
- (f) to work for the continual improvement of humanitarian international law and for the better understanding and diffusion of the Geneva Conventions and to prepare for their possible extension;
- (g) to accept the mandates entrusted to it by the International Conferences of the Red Cross.

The ICRC may also take any humanitarian initiative which comes within its rôle as a specifically neutral and independent institution and consider any questions requiring examination by such an institution.

ART. 6 (first paragraph). — The ICRC shall co-opt its members from among Swiss citizens. The number of members may not exceed twenty-five.

THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF AUGUST, 12, 1949¹

Some publications

	Sw. fr
The Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949. 2nd Ed. 1950. 245 pp.	9.—
Commentary published under the General Editorship of Mr. J. Pictet, member of ICRC and Director-General:	
— Vol. 1: Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field — 466 pp.	
bound	18.—
paper-back	15.—
— Vol. 2: Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea — 320 pp.	
bound	23.—
paper-back	18.—
— Vol. 3: Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War — 764 pp.	
bound	38.—
paper-back	33.—
— Vol. 4: Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War — 660 pp.	
bound	33.—
paper-back	28.—

The Geneva Conventions of August, 12, 1949:

— Brief Summary for Members of Armed Forces and the General Public, 13 pp.	1.50
— Course of Five Lessons, 102 pp.	7.—
— Essential Provisions, 4 pp.	0.30

*

Transparencies

The Geneva Conventions of August, 12, 1949:

— Thirty Slides with Comments, 33 pp. mimeographed	25.—
--	------

*

1) These publications and slides may be obtained from the ICRC Press and Information Service, 7, avenue de la Paix, CH-1211 Geneva 1.

BOLEX



HERMES



Precisa



paillard

TOP QUALITY...
FINE PRECISION...
THE BASIS OF THE WORLD
RENOWN OF PAILLARD
AND PRECISA PRODUCTS

SOME PUBLICATIONS OF THE ICRC

COURSIER, Henri. Course of Five Lessons on the Geneva Conventions. New Edition revised and printed. 1963, 8vo, 102 pp. Sw.Fr. 7.—.

PICTET, Jean S. Red Cross Principles. Preface by Max HUBER. 1956, 8vo, 154 pp. Sw.Fr. 8.—.

PICTET, Jean S. The Laws of War. 1961, 8vo, 11 pp. Sw.Fr. 2.—.

PICTET, Jean S. The Doctrine of the Red Cross. 1962, 8vo, 19 pp. Sw.Fr. 2.—.

COURSIER, Henri. The International Red Cross. History, Organization, Action. 1961, 16mo, 131 pp. Sw.Fr. 3.50.

WARBURTON, Barbara. The Robinson Family. A short Story about the Geneva Conventions. Ill. by Pierre LEUZINGER. 1961. 43 pp. Sw.Fr. 1.50. (With the LRCS.)

THE ICRC AT WORK. A Centenary of Service to Humanity. 1963, 4to, 32 pp., Ill. Sw.Fr. 0.50.

*

SCHWARZ, Gertrud. Table des matières de la Revue internationale de la Croix-Rouge 1939-1961. 1963, 8vo, 127 p. Sw.Fr. 5.—.

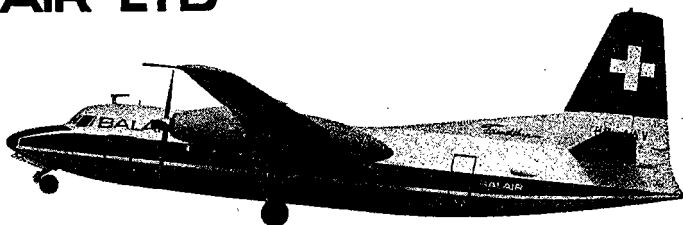
*

TWO PUBLICATIONS ISSUED BY OTHER PUBLISHERS

BOISSIER, Pierre. Histoire du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge. Tome I : De Solférino à Tsoushima. Paris, Plon, 1963, 512 p. Sw.Fr. 22.30.

JUNOD, Marcel. Le troisième combattant. L'odyssée d'un délégué de la Croix-Rouge. Nouvelle éd. avec une préface de Léopold BOISSIER et avec un résumé succinct des Conventions de Genève. Paris, Payot, 1963, in-8, 248 p. Sw.Fr. 5.—

BALAIR LTD



We are operating

PASSENGER AND CARGO-FLIGHTS TO EVERY DESTINATION
IN THE WORLD

CORONADO CV-990	134 Passengers
DOUGLAS DC-6B	89 Passengers
DOUGLAS DC-4	Passengers and freight up to 8 tons
FOKKER F-27	44 Passengers

BALAIR LTD

Air Charter Company of Switzerland

Airport Basle-Mulhouse

Phone (061) 24 98 53

P.O. Box 4002 Basle

Telex 62 325 and 62 407

Going to BELGIUM, USA, CANADA, MEXICO, AFRICA

fly

SABENA

—renowned for its
unsurpassed service!

SABENA IS MEMBER OF



QUALITY IN AIR TRANSPORT

BELGIAN World AIRLINES

Ask your travel agent or

GENEVA, Chantepoulet 13 • telephone (022) 32 66 20

ZURICH, Pelikanstrasse 37 • telephone (051) 23 27 20



Auderset & Dubois

TRAVEL AGENCY

16, place Cornavin - Tel. 32 60 00 - Teleprinter 22 492 - Geneva

Regular services to: Geneva — Nice — Barcelona — Boulogne
Turin — La Baule

Tickets for all destinations Air - Ship - Rail - Pullman

LONG-DISTANCE INTERNATIONAL TOURS BY LUXURY COACHES
INTERNATIONAL ROAD TRANSPORT

ADDRESSES OF CENTRAL COMMITTEES

- AFGHANISTAN — Afghan Red Crescent, *Kabul*.
- ALBANIA — Albanian Red Cross, 35, *Rruga Barrikadavet, Tirana*.
- ALGERIA — Central Committee of the Algerian Red Crescent Society, 15 bis, Boulevard Mohamed V, *Algiers*.
- ARGENTINE — Argentine Red Cross, H. Yrigoyen 2068, *Buenos Aires*.
- AUSTRALIA — Australian Red Cross, 122-128 Flinders Street, *Melbourne, C. 1*.
- AUSTRIA — Austrian Red Cross, 3 Gusshausstrasse, Postfach 39, *Vienna IV*.
- BELGIUM — Belgian Red Cross, 98, Chaussée de Vleurgat, *Brussels 5*.
- BOLIVIA — Bolivian Red Cross, Avenida Simon Bolivar, 1515 (Casilla 741), *La Paz*.
- BRAZIL — Brazilian Red Cross, Praça da Cruz Vermelha 10-12, Caixa postal 1286 ZC/00, *Rio de Janeiro*.
- BULGARIA — Bulgarian Red Cross, 1, Boul. S.S. Biruzov, *Sofia*.
- BURMA — Burma Red Cross, 42, Strand Road, Red Cross Building, *Rangoon*.
- BURUNDI — Red Cross Society of Burundi, rue du Marché 3, P.O. Box 1324, *Bujumbura*.
- CAMBODIA — Cambodian Red Cross, 17, Vithei Croix-Rouge, P.O.B. 94, *Phnom-Penh*.
- CAMEROON — Central Committee of the Cameroon Red Cross Society, rue Henry-Dunant, P.O.B. 631, *Yaoundé*.
- CANADA — Canadian Red Cross, 95 Wellesley Street, East, *Toronto 284* (Ontario).
- CEYLON — Ceylon Red Cross, 106 Dharma-pala Mawatte, *Colombo VII*.
- CHILE — Chilean Red Cross, Avenida Santa Maria 0150, Casilla 246 V., *Santiago de Chile*.
- CHINA — Red Cross Society of China, 22 Kanmien Hutung, *Peking, E*.
- COLOMBIA — Colombian Red Cross, Carrera 7a, 34-65 Apartado nacional 1110, *Bogotá D.E.*
- CONGO — Red Cross of the Congo, 41, Avenue Valcke, P.O. Box 1712, *Kinshasa*.
- COSTA RICA — Costa Rican Red Cross, Calle 5a, Apartado 1025, *San José*.
- CUBA — Cuban Red Cross, Ignacio Agramonte, 461, *Havana*.
- CZECHOSLOVAKIA — Czechoslovak Red Cross, Thunovska 18, *Prague I*.
- DAHOMEY — Red Cross Society of Dahomey, P.O. Box 1, *Porto Novo*.
- DENMARK — Danish Red Cross, Ny Vestergade 17, *Copenhagen K*.
- DOMINICAN REPUBLIC — Dominican Red Cross, Calle Galvan 24, Apartado 1293, *Santo Domingo*.
- ECUADOR — Ecuadorean Red Cross, Calle de la Cruz Roja y Avenida Colombia 118, *Quito*.
- ETHIOPIA — Ethiopian Red Cross, Red Cross Road No. 1, P.O. Box 195, *Addis Ababa*.
- FINLAND — Finnish Red Cross, Tehtaankatu 1 A, Box 14168, *Helsinki 14*.
- FRANCE — French Red Cross, 17, rue Quentin Bauchart, *Paris (89)*.
- GERMANY (Dem. Republic) — German Red Cross in the German Democratic Republic, Kaizerstrasse 2, *Dresden A. 1*.
- GERMANY (Federal Republic) — German Red Cross in the Federal Republic of Germany, Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 71, 5300 *Bonn 1*, Postfach (D.B.R.).
- GHANA — Ghana Red Cross, P.O. Box 835, *Accra*.
- GREAT BRITAIN — British Red Cross, 9 Grosvenor Crescent, *London, S.W.1*.
- GREECE — Hellenic Red Cross, rue Lycavittou 1, *Athens 135*.
- GUATEMALA — Guatemalan Red Cross, 3.º Calle 8-40 zona 1, *Guatemala C.A.*
- GUYANA — Guyana Red Cross, P.O. Box 351, Eve Leary, *Georgetown*.
- HAITI — Haiti Red Cross, Place des Nations Unies, B.P. 1337, *Port-au-Prince*.
- HONDURAS — Honduran Red Cross, Calle Henry Dunant 516, *Tegucigalpa*.
- HUNGARY — Hungarian Red Cross, Arany Janos utca 31, *Budapest V*.
- ICELAND — Icelandic Red Cross, Ølduggøtu 4, *Reykjavik*, Post Box 872.
- INDIA — Indian Red Cross, 1 Red Cross Road, *New Delhi 1*.
- INDONESIA — Indonesian Red Cross, Tanah Abang Barat 66, P.O. Box 2009, *Djakarta*.
- IRAN — Iranian Red Lion and Sun Society, Avenue Ark, *Teheran*.
- IRAQ — Iraqi Red Crescent, Al-Mansour, *Baghdad*.
- IRELAND — Irish Red Cross, 16 Merrion Square, *Dublin 2*.
- ITALY — Italian Red Cross, 12, via Toscana, *Rome*.
- IVORY COAST — Ivory Coast Red Cross Society, B.P. 1244, *Abidjan*.
- JAMAICA — Jamaica Red Cross Society, 76 Arnold Road, *Kingston 5*.
- JAPAN — Japanese Red Cross, 5 Shiba Park, Minato-Ku, *Tokyo*.
- JORDAN — Jordan National Red Crescent Society, P.O. Box 10 001, *Amman*.
- KENYA — Kenya Red Cross Society, St Johns Gate, P.O. Box 712, *Nairobi*.
- KOREA (Democratic People's Republic) — Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, *Pyongyang*.
- KOREA (Republic) — The Republic of Korea National Red Cross, 32-3 Ka Nam San-Donk, *Seoul*.
- KUWAIT — Kuwait Red Crescent Society, P.O. Box 1359, *Kuwait*.
- LAOS — Lao Red Cross, P.B. 650, *Vientiane*.
- LEBANON — Lebanese Red Cross, rue Général Spears, *Beirut*.

ADDRESSES OF CENTRAL COMMITTEES

- LIBERIA** — Liberian National Red Cross, National Headquarters, Corner of Tubman boulevard and 9th Street Sinkor, P.O. Box 226, *Monrovia*.
- LIBYAN ARAB REPUBLIC** — Libyan Red Crescent, Berka Omar Mukhtar Street, P.O. Box 541, *Benghazi*.
- LIECHTENSTEIN** — Liechtenstein Red Cross, *Vaduz*.
- LUXEMBOURG** — Luxembourg Red Cross, Parc de la Ville, C.P. 234, *Luxembourg*.
- MADAGASCAR** — Red Cross Society of Madagascar, rue Clemenceau, P.O. Box 1168, *Tananarive*.
- MALAYSIA** — Malaysian Red Cross Society, 519 Jalan Belfield, *Kuala Lumpur*.
- MALI** — Mali Red Cross, B.P. 280, route de Koulikora, *Bamako*.
- MEXICO** — Mexican Red Cross, Avenida Ejército Nacional, n° 1032, *Mexico* 10, D.F.
- MONACO** — Red Cross of Monaco, 27 Boul. de Suisse, *Monte-Carlo*.
- MONGOLIA** — Red Cross Society of the Mongolian People's Republic, Central Post Office, Post Box 537, *Ulan Bator*.
- MOROCCO** — Moroccan Red Crescent, rue Benzakour, B.P. 189, *Rabat*.
- NEPAL** — Nepal Red Cross Society, Tripureswore, P.B. 217, *Kathmandu*.
- NETHERLANDS** — Netherlands Red Cross, 27 Prinsessegracht, *The Hague*.
- NEW ZEALAND** — New Zealand Red Cross, 61 Dixon Street, P.O.B. 6073, *Wellington* C.2.
- NICARAGUA** — Nicaraguan Red Cross, 12 Avenida Noroeste, *Managua*, D.N.
- NIGER** — Red Cross Society of Niger, B.P. 386, *Niamey*.
- NIGERIA** — Nigerian Red Cross Society, Eko Akete Close, off. St. Gregory Rd., Onikan, P.O. Box 764, *Lagos*.
- NORWAY** — Norwegian Red Cross, Parkveien 33b, *Oslo*.
- PAKISTAN** — Pakistan Red Cross, Frere Street, *Karachi* 4.
- PANAMA** — Panamanian Red Cross, Apartado 668, *Panama*.
- PARAGUAY** — Paraguayan Red Cross, calle André Barbero y Artigas 33, *Asunción*.
- PERU** — Peruvian Red Cross, Jiron Chancay 881, *Lima*.
- PHILIPPINES** — Philippine National Red Cross, 860 United Nations Avenue, P.O.B. 280, *Manila*.
- POLAND** — Polish Red Cross, Mokotowska 14, *Warsaw*.
- PORTUGAL** — Portuguese Red Cross, General Secretaryship, Jardim 9 de Abril, 1 a 5, *Lisbon* 3.
- RUMANIA** — Red Cross of the Socialist Republic of Rumania, Strada Biserica Amzei 29, *Bucarest*.
- SALVADOR** — Salvador Red Cross, 3a Avenida Norte y 3a Calle Poniente 21, *San Salvador*.
- SAN MARINO** — San Marino Red Cross, Palais gouvernemental, *San Marino*.
- SAUDI ARABIA** — Saudi Arabian Red Crescent *Riyadh*.
- SENEGAL** — Senegalese Red Cross Society, Bld. Franklin-Roosevelt, P.O.B. 299, *Dakar*.
- SIERRA LEONE** — Sierra Leone Red Cross Society, 6 Liverpool Street, P.O.B. 427, *Freetown*.
- SOMALI REPUBLIC** — P.O. Box. 937, *Mogadiscio*.
- SOUTH AFRICA** — South African Red Cross Cor. Kruis & Market Streets, P.O.B. 8726, *Johannesburg*.
- SPAIN** — Spanish Red Cross, Eduardo Dato 16 *Madrid*, 10.
- SUDAN** — Sudanese Red Crescent, P.O. Box 235, *Khartoum*.
- SWEDEN** — Swedish Red Cross, Artillerigatan 6, 10440, *Stockholm* 14.
- SWITZERLAND** — Swiss Red Cross, Taubenstrasse, 8, B.P. 2699, 3001 *Berne*.
- SYRIA** — Syrian Red Crescent, 13, rue Abi-Ala-Almaari, *Damascus*.
- TANZANIA** — Tanzania Red Cross Society, Upanga Road, P.O.B. 1133, *Dar es Salaam*.
- THAILAND** — Thai Red Cross Society, King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital, *Bangkok*.
- TOGO** — Togolese Red Cross Society, Avenue des Alliés 19, P.O. Box 655, *Lomé*.
- TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO** — Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society, 48 Pembroke Street, P.O. Box 357, *Port of Spain*.
- TUNISIA** — Tunisian Red Crescent, 19, rue d'Angleterre, *Tunis*.
- TURKEY** — Turkish Red Crescent, Yenisehir, *Ankara*.
- UGANDA** — Uganda Red Cross, 57 Roseberry Street, P.O. Box 494, *Kampala*.
- UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC** — Red Crescent Society of the United Arab Republic, 34, rue Ramses, *Cairo*.
- UPPER VOLTA** — Upper Volta Red Cross, P.O.B. 340, *Ouagadougou*.
- URUGUAY** — Uruguayan Red Cross, Avenida 8 de Octubre, 2990, *Montevideo*.
- U.S.A.** — American National Red Cross, 17th and D Streets, N.W., *Washington* 6 D.C.
- U.S.S.R.** — Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Tcheremushki, J. Tcheremushkinskii proezd 5, *Moscow* W-36.
- VENEZUELA** — Venezuelan Red Cross, Avenida Andrés Bello No. 4, Apart. 3185, *Caracas*.
- VIET NAM (Democratic Republic)** — Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, 68, rue Bà-Trièz, *Hanoi*.
- VIET NAM (Republic)** — Red Cross of the Republic of Viet Nam, 201, duong Hồng-Tháp-Tu, No. 201, *Saigon*.
- YUGOSLAVIA** — Yugoslav Red Cross, Simina ulica broj 19, *Belgrade*.
- ZAMBIA** — Zambia Red Cross, P.O. Box R. W. 1, Ridgeway, *Lusaka*.